

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On June 2nd, at Hankow, to the Rev. and Mrs. LOUIS BYRDE, C. M. S., Yungchow, Hunan, a daughter.

On June 13th, at Meirion, The Peak, Mrs. E. JONES HUGHES, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On June 5th, at Chefoo, JOHN HOWARD STOCKE to ALICE MARY BALLER.

On June 7th, at Shanghai, COLIN CAMPBELL STEVENSON to ALICE LOUISE BENNETT.

DEATHS.

On June 5th, at Ramsgate, SIDNEY DILLON SHALLARD, late Commander P. & O. Co.'s service, aged 75 years.

On the 11th inst., at her residence No. 51, Elgin Street, MARIA JOSEPHA BAPTISTA, widow of the late MARCIANO ANTONIO BAPTISTA, artist, aged 76 years. Deeply regretted.

At Shanghai, KARL ERNST LUDWIG, only son of Mr. and Mrs. C. FINK, aged 10 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAIIS.

The French Mail of May 11th arrived, per the ss. *Tourane* on Monday, the 11th instant; and the English Mail of May 18th arrived, per the ss. *Delta*, on Wednesday, the 13th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Mr. J. C. Steen has been appointed an assistant engineer on the British section of the Kowloon-Canton railway.

An extract of the meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory during the month of May shows the total maximum temperature to have been 84.6 degrees, the minimum 73.2 degrees and the total rainfall 11.580 inches.

According to a telegram, the Weibaiwei Gold Mines crushed 2,000 tons of ore in May, at an estimated cost of \$12,250. The yield was 140 oz. gold, worth about \$3,836, and 110 tons concentrates worth about \$11,000. The estimated profit for May was therefore about \$9,586. If they can keep that up, the shareholders will not grumble.

A Chinese thief, as the outcome of a midnight adventure, is at present in the hospital suffering from a fractured skull. He had entered a house at 221, Queen's Road West and was detected stealing some garment by the occupant. He attempted to escape by the verandah, but he fell over and landed in a ricksha, from which he rolled to the ground, being injured as stated.

Once a week there is already running from Vladivostok an express train perfectly equipped on which the journey to Berlin may be comfortably made in less than fourteen days and to Paris or London in fifteen days. For this express, which carries mails and first and second class passengers all traffic stands aside, with the result that absolute punctuality is guaranteed. It leaves Vladivostok every Tuesday, and travelling homeward this way is not only more expeditious but considerably cheaper than by either sea route.

Mr. Peter Peacock, M. V. O., of the British Embassy at Tokyo, suddenly collapsed when riding to the station at Yokohama on May 30th and died almost immediately, presumably from heart failure. Mr. Peacock was very well known in Japan, and was a link with old days.

He was a burly, jovial man, full of interesting reminiscences. The *Chronicle* says: Mr. Peacock, who was in his sixty-seventh year, was appointed Inspector in the Escort Guard at To yo on February 8th, 1897, and has ever since been in the service of the Legation, now the Embassy. He was with Sir Harry Parkes when the Minister was attacked by two ronin while proceeding to the Palace at Kyoto in 1867 and on this occasion was wounded. Mr. Peacock had therefore seen thirty-nine years in the service of his country. When the Duke of Connaught visited Japan many years ago Mr. Peacock received from the Royal visitor a handsome pin as a memento of the visit, and when the report was first published that the Duke was to head the Garter Mission (instead of his son) Mr. Peacock anticipated with pleasure meeting his Royal Highness once again. During the visit of Prince Arthur recently, Mr. Peacock was awarded the Victorian Order in recognition of his long and faithful services.

A curious story was brought to light on June 13th when a Chinaman was admitted to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries to which he succumbed shortly afterwards. Apparently the deceased, a merchant, who lived at 147, Des Vœux Road, had been in the habit of crossing the roofs of the intervening houses when he paid a visit to his friend at 31, Queen's Street. On the night in question he had spent the evening at his friend's house and was returning over the roofs about 11 o'clock when he stepped on a broom handle, which caused him to stumble and fall down the backyard at 24, Queen's Street. At the bottom he alighted on a shopkeeper who was washing his hands there.

Curiously enough, the shopkeeper was scarcely injured, although the man who fell on him was rather weighty, but the latter was so severely injured from his fall of 60 feet that he died a few hours later.

AN INTERESTING ASSEMBLY.

On June 14th there was an interesting assembly at the New Connaught Hotel on the occasion of a complimentary banquet and presentation of address to Mr. Frederic Jones, Queensland Government Commissioner, and Mr. Chu Wun-man, Chinese Secretary, Mexican Consulate, by the Guild of Australian, American and Canadian Merchants. Covers were laid for about 80 persons. Mr. Young Hee presided in the absence of the Chairman and was flanked by the guests of the evening.

Following the toast of "His Britannic Majesty and the Emperor of China," Mr. Chan Hui proposed the toast of the "Commercial Unity of Australia and China," and in doing so enlighened the services of Mr. Jones, and referred to the commercial development of China. The Chairman proposed "Our Guests" and said that Mr. Jones, whose mission it was to push Australian products in China, was the right man in the right place. His success was largely due to the representations made by Mr. Chu Wun-man, who was always to the fore where vital Chinese interests were concerned. Mr. Jones and Mr. Chu replied in appropriate terms. Some notes of the speeches will appear in our next issue.

THE PLAGUE.

INVESTIGATIONS AT BOMBAY.

The Allahabad *Pioneer* says: From investigations of plague which have commenced working in the Patel Laboratory, Bombay, it would seem as if the whole problem of the disease were going to turn on the species of rat and rat flea which carry infection. Dr. Martin, it is understood, holds that whether plague be primarily a rat disease and epidemics among human beings merely a participation of man in what is scientifically known as the "spizo tie," the intimate relationship of the two is undoubtedly. Hence arise the strongest reasons for believing that infected rats are the most important cause of the epidemic spread of plague. The advisory committee have concentrated their efforts in the first instance on the seasonal prevalence of rat plague in Bombay and also in villages, and its relation to the human epidemic, the habits of rats and their parasites, their breeding season and existence of sub-acute or chronic plague among them in months when the disease is not epidemic are being closely studied. From 500 to 1,000 rats per day have been examined in a most elaborate way, and the existence and extent of the disease throughout the year should thus be determined.

Mr. W. Peters, manager of Ewart, Eyre and Co's Bulk Oil Installation, writes to a Karachi paper: "As manager and employer of a large number of labourers for over 6 years in a bulk oil installation, I have noticed that none of my coolies employed in the canning of oil have been attacked. From this experience I am firmly of the opinion that kerosene oil acts as a preventive. It has come to my notice that during the past year I have lost about 6 men and boys, who did not come in contact with oil, these men and boys being employed on machines. I am so convinced of what I write that I have strongly recommended my men to besmear their bodies with petroleum oil. I may add that my men live mostly in the infected areas."

CHINA AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

(*Daily Press*, 11th June.)

It is somewhat significant that at the time when the question of introducing some form of representative government into China has come to be discussed as within the range of practical politics circumstances have arisen in Great Britain which have brought the shortcomings of that system into undesirable prominence. Very few, in the present day, will be found seriously to doubt that representation of the people at large is essential to the proper government of any country. The time is past when the most reactionary politicians can seriously maintain that anything but national disaster in one form or another must sooner or later result from the attempt to govern any large nation without providing some means for properly ascertaining and giving effect to the views and wishes of the people at large. At the same time thoughtful men have not been without their doubts whether we have as yet hit upon the right mode of attaining this end by constitutional government so far as it has been developed up to the present time. That there should be some means of inducing those in authority to act in accordance with the wishes and opinions of the people at large no one will be disposed to gainsay, nor will anyone be inclined to deny that this essential check is best found by elective institutions. The acceptance, however, of this undeniable position does not, by any means solve the whole problem, and the question is constantly cropping up in one form or another how adequate representation is to be obtained. It is manifest there is no absolute standard. Generally speaking, it is admitted on all sides that there should be such representation as will fairly give effect to the views of the people as a whole; but this still leaves the question how that end is to be attained in any given circumstances unanswered. The best reply that can be given to it is that that system of representation is desirable which in given circumstances best enables the people to obtain the enforcement of their views by those who are immediately responsible for the Government of the country. This, however, is manifestly a very wide definition and opens the door to very divergent views as to the degree to which representative institutions are desirable in any given case. The Tsar of Russia, or his most reactionary advisers, would not be disposed to deny that the people should be represented in some way, while the President of the United States would not gainsay the fact that the power thus conferred upon the people must be restrained within certain limits. Thus the question always becomes one of practical statesmanship, not of abstract theory, and the greatest admirers of popular government cannot but at times feel some misgivings as to the manner in which its principles are applied. The means of carrying out such a system must always be, in some form or other, party government, and we have of late had illustrations of the dangerous lengths to which party spirit may be carried even in countries long used to a representative system.

The Chinese, who have gone to Europe to study among other things the question of representative government, must be struck by what has taken place at the recent general election; and, if they rightly grasp the facts, it may be doubted whether they will be greatly impressed with the advantages of such a mode of procedure for the government of a

nation such as theirs, or indeed of any nation at all. The particular weakness of the system which is presented for their consideration is precisely that which is most calculated to cause them to hesitate to introduce representative institutions, after the pattern familiar to Englishmen and Americans, into China. If there is one thing which the Chinese official dreads more than anything else, it is the possibility of the masses obtaining undue power and overruling the more mature judgment of the higher and better educated classes; and when they see one of the highest officials virtually impeached in the highest legislative assembly because there has been some irregularity about giving a Chinese coolie a few strokes of the bamboo under the sanction of the Chinese official specially appointed to the Transvaal in order to protect the immigrants, and without any complaint having been made either by the men themselves or by the Chinese Consul sent to look after their interests, they may well have some doubts whether government carried on in this manner is in accordance with the eternal fitness of things or likely to conduce to peace and harmony, if introduced into China. If they take cognisance of other measures which are occupying the attention of Parliament at the present time, such as the legalising on the part of trade unions of action which would be illegal on the part of other persons, and the suggestion that women should have the vote as well as men, they may be excused if they come to the conclusion that these things may do well enough for the outer barbarians but would never be useful or acceptable in the Celestial Empire.

Of course any such conclusion, as we well know, would be erroneous, as it would be based upon an abnormal state of things, which we have every reason to hope will become modified by counteracting influences, or from which time will bring about a salutary reaction; but it can hardly be conceived that the Chinese emissaries will realise this fact, which indeed is but imperfectly grasped even by thoughtful and far-seeing British statesmen. It may be doubted therefore whether very much will be attained towards inducing the Chinese to adopt a system of representative government by what they will see of its working abroad. There is quite as much to discourage as to encourage them in what they will find existent either in Great Britain America, or in France and, in a modified degree, in other European countries. If they are wisely directed, they may seize the truth that with all its shortcomings representation in some form is what is most essential to the security and stability of government; but even if they are convinced of this, they will still be faced with the difficult problem how what is good in representative government can be grafted upon the system existing in China with as little of its defects as is possible. This problem is by no means easy of solution; but before anything practical can be effected, it has to be solved. In order to do so, it will be necessary to make a critical examination of the whole internal administration of the country and to ascertain where it is defective and where it can be improved in the direction of representation with a view to the introduction of that system when the country has become ripe for it. This must of necessity be a slow process; and it is also a process to which the Chinese from their instincts are unfortunately but little inclined, as they hold to the idea that the government of their country is perfect in principle and that if things occasionally go wrong it is due to the

defects of individual officials and not to the system which they have to administer.

CHINAMAN'S INHUMANITY TO CHINAMAN.

(*Daily Press*, 12th June.)

There is in one of the many books relating to China a story which we remember vaguely, without knowing whether it was intended for fiction or fact. It told of a certain Chinaman of inferior rank but superior impudence who coveted the factory and property of a wealthy neighbour. There was enough of detail to demonstrate, with considerable vraisemblance, how he dispossessed his neighbour and managed to instal himself securely as undisputed owner. The bribing of false witnesses, the theft of title deeds, and the convincing of an official by a trick, were parts of his procedure. We have always considered it as a humorous exaggeration, even if it were not wholly fiction. Some recent statements published as sober fact remind us of the tale, and make us consider it in a more serious light. It is important to bear in mind, in view of the suspicion all critical foreign comments rest under, of being prejudiced against things and ways Chinese, that the statements to be referred to are made by a Chinaman, Mr. LANG PAO-YUNG, so recently as the 5th of this month. This gentleman writes to the *North-China Daily News* of "the utter lack of justice or even fairness" with which Chinese are treated by their own officials—even in the Foreign Settlement. His story is to the following effect. Over twenty years ago the China Paper Mill was established by Chinese within the boundaries of foreign Shanghai. A very prosperous business resulted and continued almost to date. The property and works have been held and managed throughout exclusively by Chinese. No foreigners had any interest in it at all. Even now the owners are descendants of the original owner. The present value of the concern is estimated to be a quarter of a million taels. Some time ago a notorious character called YING KWEI-SHING, at present alleged to be under arrest as an accomplice of the still more notorious prince of bandits, VAH KAH-DEE set up a claim as part owner of the Paper Mill, a claim which we are left to understand was legally groundless. The claimant some years ago had been officially stigmatised as "an unprincipled and untrustworthy person". It is stated that this man, "through his influence with the various Chinese officials and high Chinese authorities, which influence it is generally believed comes from his close association with VAH KAH-DEE", was able to cause the Chinese Chamber of Commerce to summon the owners to answer his claim. As the Chamber is not a judicial body, and "has no judicial rights even under the Chinese law", and as they had no hope of a proper result following the intervention of this body, the Mill owners refused to go. YING is then alleged to have obtained a "secret order" from the Chinese Mixed Court magistrate for the closing of the Mill pending settlement. As it is stated that a foreign attorney was instrumental to this end, we may dismiss the suggestion of irregularity. The order may have been unfair; but it was probably as legal as the anomalous arrangements at Shanghai permit anything to be. It is asserted, however, by Mr. LANG that the Police for some time refused to execute this order, on the ground that it was illegal, which they would scarcely have presumed to do if a foreign Assessor had participated in its issuance. Yet, it is

stated that the Spanish Consul consented, and the Belgian Consul countersigned the warrant. Anyhow, the prosperous Mill was closed and over three hundred employees thrown out of work. Mr. LANG insists that all this was done "without bringing any judicial proceedings against the owners of the Mill or in any way giving them a chance to present their side of the case in a legal Court". He appears to be much hurt at the idea that the wicked claimant's attorney was a member of the Municipal Council, which body collected heavy taxes but could not interfere to protect mere Chinese. It is this sort of thing, he asserts, which drives Chinese to appeal for protection to any Consulate willing to take them under its wing. This is in allusion to the allegation that the Spanish Consul is too complacent in the matter of registering all comers as Spanish subjects. Mr. LANG asks, "can such Consuls be blamed for assuming jurisdiction in cases where otherwise gross injustice and severe hardship not only fall on one but on the many involved, by reason of Chinese officialdom's actual disregard not only of law, but almost of decency?" The writer does not give dates; and we have gone through a year's file without finding any reference to the case; but we have little doubt that the Municipal Council will have an answer to any suggestion of neglect on its part. In emphasising native injustice or incompetence, the administrative body of Shanghai has not confined itself to citing only cases in which foreigners have been directly interested. The significant features of the letter, which our contemporary would hardly have inserted if it had been wholly baseless and wrong, are these. Over his own name, a Chinese ratepayer denounces in round terms the dishonesty of Chinese officials, and fairly hints at the extent to which they, and even a body like the Chamber of Commerce, are subject to the ramified influence of the VAH KAH-PEH gang. Unless Mr. LANG be promptly and certainly contradicted, foreign critics must feel justified in giving freer rein to their distrust.

BRITISH SHIPPERS AND THE BOARD OF TRADE.

(*Daily Press*, 13th June.)

It may be said that the attitude of Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE, President of the Board of Trade, to the deputation from the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, was non-committal but not easy to understand. The deputation attended in support of the opinion that the preferential treatment accorded by British steamship companies to foreign freight, particularly in connection with shipment to South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand, is injurious to the commercial interests of the United Kingdom. From their point of view, equality of treatment for British shippers is an essential, and they urged the necessity for some steps to secure it. The President of the Board of Trade could not deny that there was a serious grievance; indeed, Sir WILLIAM HOLLAND, M.P., told him it was an old-standing one. He therefore assured the deputation that he realised its Imperial importance. As there are shippers at both ends, it was correct enough to describe them as Imperial interests, and the deputation would naturally be put into a good humour by such a beginning. But when they came to remedies, he said it was a much more difficult matter. It always is. Anybody can feel a pinching shoe, but only shoemakers can mend the trouble. In the matter of shipping, there

be people who fear that Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE is not a good cobbler, although his intentions appear to be good. He had no fear of legislating, he told them, which was a curious remark for a legislator to make. He believed it was a mistake to interfere with a great industry unless there was an overwhelming case; and thereby must have made some of the shippers wonder when "a serious grievance" connected with "Imperial interests" becomes an overwhelming case. "It was very clear that nothing but legislation or the interference of a Government Department would attain the object", he is reported to have said, and the suspicion that he was marking time becomes almost a certainty. In keeping with the traditions of British statesmanship, he stipulated for official information as to the shipowners' point of view, as so far he had heard only the case for the Colonial and Home traders. Obviously the shipowner should have a hearing, and it is unlikely that he will be "backward in coming forward", although it is improbable that he will attempt to absolutely rebut the statement that there is a *prima facie* case for the charge that British shipowners have been giving something like a bounty on foreign goods. Indeed, after the cases cited in detail by representatives from the Birmingham, Walsall, and other Chambers, Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE could scarcely claim that to be a particularly "handsome admission". It was rather like the remark of a magistrate to a female complainant with a black eye, that she did seem to have been treated in an unbecoming manner by somebody. But the charge, of marking time, against the President of the Board of Trade, is further strengthened by his own terminological generosity. He went on to assure these business men that that was a state of things that the Government could not possibly encourage (the Government had received no such request) and "he was not so sure, if it were seriously interfering with trade, that they ought not to take steps to discourage it". He had just been assured by traders that the practice was interfering with trade; he had gone so far as to admit that after going very carefully into the matter he had no doubt that there was a very serious grievance; and yet he, the practical head of a practical department, could only say he was not so sure that they ought not to take steps. We have no record that any member of the deputation murmured, even *sotto voce*, a recent phrase of Mr. LLOYD GEORGE's political chief; and perhaps we would be letting a natural impatience run away with us if we said on their behalf, "Enough of this foolery." The most hopeful suggestion was that he should invite the Advisory Committee of the Board of Trade to recommend what steps could be taken to provide a remedy. Notwithstanding that he had admitted the grievance, and specifically stated that his difficulty was to think of a remedy, he objected to this suggestion on the ground that the Advisory Committee consisted of traders, without a single ship-owner. This was indeed statesmanship extraordinary. A body admittedly competent and admittedly anxious to advise him is to be ignored, because of the absence in it of a representative of the very class which is said to be doing things that he thinks he ought to discourage but does not know how! Does the President of the Board of Trade imagine that shipowners would help to suggest possible steps to be taken against themselves? He certainly cannot be foolish enough to suppose that they will permit their case to remain unheard when hitherto undiscovered remedies are brought forward,

so that he cannot raise the plea of fairplay. Why he should so fence with the deputation when he is not hostile to further inquiry is a mystery. However, he will be unable to do so after the SECRETARY of the Association has sent in affidavits, or whatever the form be that evidence has to take to satisfy the Board of Trade of the existence of "a real, substantial grievance". Then the Government will invite the opinion of the shipowners, and afterwards deal with the matter. Thus, however unsatisfactory the President's speech sounds, we may conclude that the position of the shippers has been advanced at least a little way.

THE SINAI PENINSULA.

(*Daily Press*, 14th June.)

Whether the British Government could not wisely have taken a less uncompromising stand with regard to the disputed boundary between Turkey and Egypt in the Sinaitic peninsula seems certainly open to discussion. While undoubtedly, according to the strict interpretation of the understanding between Turkey and Great Britain, Turkey had no leg to stand on, the question resolved itself into the simple enquiry whether Great Britain could not, while maintaining that this was not a matter admitting of debate, secure some compensating advantages from the Porte which would have more than compensated for the seemingly infinitesimal loss of prestige on the part of Egypt which was apparently the chief ground of dispute. All three sides concerned in the dispute seem to have coincided in one view, and that was as to the utter uselessness of the ground in dispute. In the actual present it matters little whether Tabah and the seven miles in question are Turkish or Egyptian territory, for under existing conditions the peninsula of Sinai has sunk through neglect almost to the position of a no-man's land. Formerly this very peninsula was considered so valuable an asset that for long it was a bone of contention between the two great civilisations on the banks of the Nile and the Euphrates respectively; and long after its final passing into Egyptian hands the rulers of that country found it profitable to maintain there a large military garrison to protect their very material interests. This importance was brought about not only from the occurrence of very valuable copper mines, in an age of bronze a writer almost of existence to Egypt, but that in addition through this now desolate peninsula passed the great trade routes that connected Egypt with the other civilised states of the early world. Time has its revenge, and in nothing is this more plainly exhibited than in the gradual return during the last century of trade to its primeval routes. Two main causes have of course been instrumental in bringing this about, the growth of the British Empire in India, and its corollary, the opening of the Suez Canal. A third with the opening of the new century for the first time becoming of first rate importance is, of course, the opening up to commerce of Africa.

Fifteen years ago the construction of a direct line of communication between Cape Town in the south and Cairo in the north of Africa was only a dream of the fertile brain of the late CECIL RHODES; already it has been taken up as a practical project by keen men of business, and is making daily rapid strides towards completion. British influence at the moment is paramount in Egypt, and a railway to Cape Town from Cairo would not be complete without its natural concomitant of another from Cairo to Karachi. So long ago as the 'thirties of

the last century a scheme was in high favour for making a line of railway from the Mediterranean to the valley of the Euphrates, and thence to India. Politically the time was not ripe, and afterwards the construction of the Suez Canal seemed to meet all possible requirements. Now the success of the Canal only serves to emphasise the need of something more rapid. The commercial instinct too which leads on the European peoples to continually improve their methods of communication finds at somewhat similar instinct amongst the Mohammedan peoples which finds its expression in the annual pilgrimage to the holy spots in Arabia. Turkey as the leading state of orthodox Mohammedanism is just now striving to meet this wandering instinct of its own people by the construction of a line of railway to the Hedjaz from Syria, and as this must needs pass by Ma'an this petty town has recently assumed in the eyes of the SULTAN an importance it never before possessed. There is little doubt that this was one, if not the principle reason that led to the SULTAN taking a new interest in the Sinaitic peninsula. Now it might very well be that this same insignificant town of Ma'an might also have some interest in our own eyes as a necessary link in any scheme of direct intercourse between Egypt and India. Historically Ma'an is one of the most ancient spots on the face of the earth. According to many authorities its civilisation was antecedent to that of Egypt herself, but its importance then as now was altogether dependent on its position which made it the necessary meeting place for all traffic, not only from Mesopotamia to the eastern littoral of the Red Sea and the fertile lands of Yemen, but for all communication between Egypt and ancient Elam. It commanded, in fact, the two great trade routes of the ancient world, and the effects of the ancient Minaean civilisation, which there is good reason to believe were mainly centred in this district, have not yet died out even in Europe itself. Now the oldest trade route of which we have any evidence actually passed from Ma'an through the Wadi Sirhan and Shomer to the coast of the Persian Gulf, which it crossed to Elam, the ancient Susiana. There is very little doubt that it was along this road that bronze, and with it its first civilisation, was introduced to Egypt.

Ma'an is in fact the key to Central Arabia, and Central Arabia is the key to overland traffic between Egypt and India. There would therefore have been wisdom displayed in such a compromise as would have in return for minor concessions in the region of Akaba, enabled Great Britain to make common cause with the SULTAN in gaining unimpeded access to Ma'an on the borders of Arabia proper. Unfortunately while British explorers of late years have traversed every other portion of the habitable globe, Central Arabia, which owing to its intermediate position between Egypt and India, and which moreover affords the most practicable line for a railway which would bind together such distant parts of the Empire as India and Cape Colony, has been entirely neglected. Explorations have indeed been made in Yemen and Hadramaut, but Central Arabia, one of the most interesting countries, archaeologically, historically, geologically, as well as socially and politically, has been left entirely in the cold since it was traversed by PALGRAVE nearly half a century ago. Yet it is by no means the barren and forbidding country that it is popularly assumed to be. Looked at on the map the absence of rivers leads to the natural conclusion that it is parched and desert land; the observations of PALGRAVE

rather point to its being a well-watered and fertile region, subject to no great extremes of temperature, and fairly wooded; the absence of rivers being explained by the porous nature of the tertiary limestones of which the central ranges are composed, and the comparative mildness of the climate by the elevation of these ranges which leaves them exposed to the periodical winds common to the latitude whether blowing north or south. Great Britain has already through the coast at Koweit, which it has successfully prevented from falling under the benumbing influence of Turkish misrule, a considerable amount of trade with these uplands, which alone would justify its taking some further interest in them. This, however, is not the main object of seeking further enlightenment, but rather their importance as an intermediate link. To a statesman like Sir EDWARD GREY, whose experience in world-wide politics has been gained in the practical school of leading the affairs of one of Britain's most important railways, these considerations would doubtless carry great weight, if once the matter were brought before his notice; but curiously the geographical authorities, while eagerly advancing exploration in nearly every other direction, seem to have passed over this.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

(*Daily Press*, 15th June.)

The special telegram we are able to publish this morning giving the substance of questions asked in the House of Commons with regard to the construction of the Kowloon-Canton Railway cannot fail to excite a good deal of local interest. An uneasy feeling has evidently been engendered in certain quarters partly perhaps because of the reticence which has been maintained by the Government regarding the details of the undertaking, and more obviously by a deep-rooted distrust of the usually extravagant methods of the Crown Agents who are assumed to have direct control of the work. The questions raised by these anxieties, the product of many-tongued rumour, as they appear in the telegram, clearly indicate the shape taken in the public mind by the peril presumed to exist. The reply as it stands, were we unable to supplement it by our own information, would not appear altogether satisfactory, especially to those imbued with the popular prejudice against, and distrust of, the Crown Agents. In keeping with the quantity of information permitted to be known to the public, it is meagre. It is, however, a categorical repudiation of the implication contained in the questions; and when interpreted with knowledge, it is quite sufficient to allay the doubts of which those questions were the expression. The curious thing is that while their implication is altogether wrong, some of the statements in the questions are more than half right. The staff of the Public Works Department did make rapid and substantial progress with the work entrusted to them. They, the Public Works Staff, but not the Government of Hongkong, were relieved of further responsibility, when the regularly appointed engineers were ready to assume charge of the work all along destined for them. It was simply to save time, practically a sop to the public impatience, that the P. W. D. were set to work directly the survey was completed; and they are to be complimented, we suppose, on the excellence of the preliminary work done pending the arrival of their permanent successors. These permanent successors are a special staff,

whose appointments were decided long before, and by no means sprung on the local Government. The Consulting Engineer referred to by Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL is Sir JOHN WOLFE-BARRY, whose connection with other Chinese railway schemes, to say nothing of his eminence in the profession, had as much to do with his appointment as had his connection with the Crown Agents.

So far as the Kowloon-Canton Railway is concerned all that is publicly known of the matter can be recited in very few words. It is known that towards the end of last Spring two expert railway engineers arrived in the Colony to survey the route and presumably to furnish an estimate of the cost of constructing the line. It is known that the survey was completed some time before Christmas and that the engineers left for Home. Very shortly afterwards the Colony was surprised by an announcement that a loan of two million pounds sterling was to be raised by the Government for the construction of the British section of the Kowloon-Canton Railway "and other purposes". The secret covered by the words in quotation marks leaked out at Peking, but no information has yet been made public as to the probable cost of the railway through the Kowloon peninsula. If we remember rightly, it was even before the loan was raised that the work of constructing the line was commenced without ceremony of any kind under the supervision of the Public Works Department. Hundreds of coolies were employed making embankments and it was indeed not before considerable progress had been made with the work that it became publicly known that a beginning had actually been made. The Government's reticence naturally allowed many people to assume that the work was to be carried out throughout by the P. W. D. engineer who had been detached for the work; but as we have already indicated, such was never the intention. The wording of the notifications of the appointment of Mr. G. W. EVES as chief resident engineer, and of other gentlemen, which included the phrase "under instructions from the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES", when taken in conjunction with the assumption referred to, naturally led to the cry that the undertaking had been taken out of the hands of the Hongkong Government. We now have the explicit official intimation that there has been no change of policy; that it is as much in the hands of the Hongkong Government as it ever was. The concluding assurance that all that has been done has had the full concurrence of His Excellency the GOVERNOR should locally inspire confidence that the interests of the Colony are in no danger of suffering very badly in the manner implied by the questions asked in the House of Commons.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

11th June.

I bear that the Government Commission appointed to inquire into local administration has now setled down to business under its new Chairman, the Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett. There are indications that the inquiry, which is likely to be fairly exhaustive, will be protracted over a considerable period, and though the Commission is sitting twice a week there is little hope of the inquiry concluding under six months. Then the report and recommendations will take some time to prepare, so that, on the most favourable estimate, the public cannot hope to be in possession of the results this year.

There was a paragraph in the *Press* the other day to the effect that certain blemishes on the Clock Tower had been repaired, and I was

astonished to see that the scaffolding which had encircled the tower for so many weeks had been removed without any attempt being made to give the exterior the cleaning and renovation that it so obviously needed. That, however, is not the only sign of neglect. Its faces are no longer lit up at night, and the people who used to be induced to hasten their steps homewards after a study of one of its dials are conscious of something being wrong these nights when they look up and see nothing but the dark outline. It looks indeed as if those responsible were trying to bring the old landmark into disrepute by allowing it to develop into what some folks say it is, an eyesore, and by failing to make it as useful as it has hitherto been. Isn't it time somebody did something again?

It is curious how our news returns to us after many months. When an item has gone the rounds of the press, ornamented by some sub-editor or criticised by another it is perhaps a little difficult to recognise the original paragraph. Some few months ago the advisability of replacing the boys in our domestic service by females was discussed in this column, and in making a comparison between the males and the females the writer naturally suggested that the latter would not only be better suited for household duties but that they would be more amenable to the "lawful orders" of their employers. Judge then the writer's surprise, when he reads in an Indian exchange the following travesty of his original suggestions:—"In Hongkong, the servant question is a terrible one. The Chinese servant is described as both a thief and revengeful, so much so, that a few months ago discussion was opened in the Hongkong *Press* as to whether it were possible to get rid of the 'male' element in Chinese house-keeping (a survival of the old days of military rule) and substitute Chinese girls." It is a trite remark that a rolling stone gathers no moss, but it will be admitted that a circulating paragraph, if it does not gain in bulk, frequently changes in form.

Hongkong is not the only place that sends up a wail about the dollar. It is heard in the French colonies, in the Straits Settlements, and even in the Dutch possessions further south. The "petits fonctionnaires," as they are called in Indo-China, complain loudly of the hardships to which they are exposed by reason of the fact that wages and salaries are based on the home currency. All the advantages of this system accrue to the merchants and commercial people, and the poor consumers have to suffer. Even the ray of hope which communication with the authorities in Paris held out has been extinguished, as the reply was that the rise and fall in the value of the silver made it impossible to give the desired "stabilisation" of the piastre. In the Netherlands colonies the cry is practically the same.

One would, however, have looked for different results in Singapore, where the dollar has recently been fixed at two shillings and four-pence. But such is not the case. A writer in the new journal, the *Straits Weekly*, says that "no one appears to be one penny the better for the enhanced value of our local currency. The sterling salaried men look upon fifty at 2s 4d with jaundiced eyes and complain that they never were so poor, while the silverites growl that they are not getting enough for their money. Exporters don't like it and the importers say that it has knocked the bottom out of trade generally—just in the same old way as when the dollar depreciated almost to nothing a few years ago." Thus, we begin to realise that no matter what is done in this connection, the grumblers, like the poor, will always be with us.

Punkabs and electric fans are blessings which most of us appreciate at this time, and while in our efforts to keep cool, we discard as much clothing as is considered consistent with decency and dignity, few residents dare risk their reputation by appearing on the streets minus jacket and vest as so many American visitors do at present. It takes something to shock those who have lived in the Far East for some time, and thus it is that the sight of white men walking along our thoroughfares with trousers and shirt as their only

garments is only regarded as a circumstance—one of the many unusual scenes which visitors never fail to provide.

BANYAN

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on June 14th in the Council Chamber at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY MAJOR-GENERAL VILLIERS HATTON, C.B. (Commanding the Troops).
Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. SIR H. S. BERKELEY, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Captain L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. E. OMBORNE.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLACK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. W. J. GRESSON.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Council).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEE.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I appoint the Hon. Mr. Gresson to be a member of the Public Works Committee vice the Hon. Mr. Dickson, resigned.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H. E. the Governor, laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 34 to 38, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Financial Minute No. 34 is for a sum of \$2,164 for the erection of additional quarters for nurses at the Government Civil Hospital. Rather less was spent last year when this work was anticipated, and consequently rather more has been spent this year, and the work is now completed at a cost of \$23,101 against an estimate of \$26,000, making a saving of \$2,899. Financial Minute No. 35 includes a sum of \$400 in aid of the vote to the police and prison departments for meals to prisoners and servants. This excess on the sum originally voted is due to the large number of deportees from Singapore and Saigon for whom meals have had to be provided in the police cells. We propose now to recover this amount from the Government of the Straits Settlements and of Indo-China. The same minute also includes a sum of \$690 in aid of the item secret service. Hitherto, it has been brought to my notice, informers have been paid from fines. That is a somewhat irregular procedure, as fines should go to the revenue and all monies spent in payment of informers should be voted by Council. Financial Minute No. 36 for a sum of \$3,375.79 is for substituting the new pattern for the old pattern rifle of the Volunteers. The work was done and the expenditure incurred last year, but the account was not received in time for the amount to be included in the accounts for last year. Financial Minute No. 38 is for \$470 for the Post Office. This vote is to enable the Government to do away with the "hong" system of correspondence with Canton. By that system a private shop collected letters and posted them to a private shop in Canton at so much an ounce to the packet. It was necessary so long as the Imperial Post Office of China could not undertake to take Chinese letters for delivery in Canton. They are now undertaking to do that, and it is more convenient in every way that this additional amount should pass through a regular post office. It is more than probable that this small sum can be recovered out of the Post Office receipts.

The motion was carried.

FINANCIAL.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of H. E. the Governor, laid on the table report of the Finance Committee No. 4, and said—In that committee, Sir, the Supplementary Appropriation Bill for 1905 was considered clause by clause, and the committee unanimously recommended that the bill in question should be dealt with by Council in the same manner as a bill reported on by a committee of the whole Council. That procedure will enable us to take the third reading without referring the bill to a committee of the whole Council. I move the adoption of the report.

THE COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

REPORT OF THE LAW COMMITTEE.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL—I have to bring up the report of the Law Committee on the two bills referred to it—an Ordinance to amend the law relating to the property of married women and an Ordinance to regulate the qualifications and provide for the registration of dentists. With respect to the first bill the committee of the Council recommend that it be dealt with by Council in the same way as a bill reported on by a committee of the whole Council. I, therefore, when the time comes will move that the Married Women's Property Bill be read a third time without any further reference to the Council. With respect to the Dentists' Bill, the committee have reported the bill with certain amendments, all of which appear in the report. It will be necessary to move that they be adopted, and if they are then the bill can be read a third time as if it had gone through a committee of the whole Council clause by clause. The first recommendation of the Law Committee on the Dentists' Bill is that the figures be altered from 1905 to 1906. That is obviously essential. The second is that clause 5, sub-section 1, should be amended by deleting all the words following the word "after" in the third line and substituting the words "the 3rd day of May in every year." I think that recommendation will command itself to the Council. The next is a recommendation that clause 7 of the Bill be struck out and the following substituted: "Subject to the provisions of sections 2 and 3 no person shall be entitled to recover in any action any charge for any dental aid rendered after the commencement of this Ordinance, unless or until such person shall have been registered." That carries out the intention of the framer of the Bill but in improved language. It is recommended further that clause 8 (1) of the Bill be amended by the insertion between the words "dentists" and "who" in the 6th line thereof the words "and any two other fit persons willing to accept the appointment." The object of that recommendation is to provide that the Dentists' Board should not be entirely composed of professional men. As originally laid before the Council the Bill provided that the Board should consist of five members, the principal Medical Officer of Health as chairman, two medical practitioners and two dentists. The committee considered that following the precedent of the Medical Board it would be well to have two men not necessarily either dentists or doctors upon that Board. His Excellency the Governor is therefore empowered to appoint any two others he may think fit and willing to serve on the Board. I hope the Council will adopt that recommendation. Sub-section of clause eight it is also recommended should be deleted and the following substituted in place thereof: "an appointed member shall hold office for three years." As the Bill originally stood the words were "A member appointed by the Governor shall hold office for three years." In the draft Bill the fact was overlooked that two of the members were to be appointed by the Medical Board. This suggestion of the committee is to the effect that all appointed members whether by the Governor or by the Board shall hold office for three years. Clause nine has been recast in committee without in any way changing the intention of the original Bill. The suggested sub-section (1) runs as follows: "shall prove to the satisfaction of the Board that he was within three years prior to the passing of this Ordinance a bona fide practitioner of dentistry and dental surgery in this Colony, and shall make application in writing to the Dentists' Board for registration within six weeks after the commencement of this Ordinance or, in the

case of persons absent from the Colony at the date of the commencement of the Ordinance, shall make such application within six weeks after his return to the Colony; or". The committee had under their consideration the fact that there were, probably are, at this time and will be when the Ordinance comes into operation persons who have practised dentistry in the Colony but who are temporarily absent. They ought to be permitted to return to the Colony to practice if they desire to do so. The object of this clause is to safeguard the rights of those who are absent and desire to return. The committee after consideration came to the conclusion that three years was a fair and reasonable limit to place on the right of a person who had once practised in Hongkong to return to practice in order to prevent himself from being disqualified. Any person therefore who has practised in Hongkong prior to the passing of this Ordinance and who desires to come back to practice must exercise that privilege within three years from the passing of this Ordinance. Sub-section 3 of clause nine is also recommended for amendment by the addition at the end thereof of the words "and, in the case of such diplomas as have been granted after the 1st day of October, 1897, shall in addition produce a Certificate granted by the Dental Council of Pennsylvania, or by the State Board of Massachusetts, or by the State Board of Michigan which entitles him to practise dental surgery in any of those States; or". The object of putting in those additional words is to make sure that the privilege which this Council is extending to dentists who do not possess a qualification recognised by the Medical Council of England will not be abused. We are giving by this bill the dentists who have a qualification by way of a diploma from certain universities in America, namely, the Universities of Pennsylvania, Harvard and Michigan, the right of being placed on the register of persons qualified to practice dentistry in the Colony. If in addition to the possession of a mere academic degree such dentist satisfies the Dentists' Board that he possesses a certificate from a state board or state council of the United States of America, he will be qualified to practice. That provision was inserted in the bill under a recommendation by some of the dentists of Hongkong, and I recommend it. The concession is valued by them, and they desire that those who hereafter take advantage of it shall have the right to practice in Hongkong. It was pointed out to me that a mere diploma was not sufficient, but in addition it was necessary to pass a further examination of a practical character and thereby obtain a certificate from a state board. That accordingly is made part of the provisions of the bill, and it will meet with the approval of the Council. Clause 10, sub-clause 1., it is also desired to amend by striking out the words "or as near thereto as circumstances will permit." This clause provides for the form of the diploma or certificate, and the committee came to the conclusion that the form given in the bill should be adhered to rigidly. The twelfth clause of the bill it is proposed to amend by striking out the proviso at the end and substituting the following in its place:—"Provided that the Governor-in-Council shall have power to restore to the Dentists' Register after an interval of not less than twelve months from the date of such removal the name of any person which has been removed under the provisions of this or of the preceding section." That proviso is given in order to prevent any hardship that might arise from the striking off the register of a person's name. The fourteenth clause, sub-clause 2, it is recommended to amend by adding the word "Or." This is necessary to supply a clerical omission. The next recommendation is the rectification of the figures of the year, making 1906 instead of 1905. Then there is a final recommendation that a further clause shall be added, making the Ordinance come into operation on a day thereafter to be fixed by the Governor. That is added to the bill so as to give persons a reasonable time within which to register. I beg to move that the recommendations of the Law Committee on the Dentists' Bill be adopted by this Council, and that thereafter we proceed to read the bill a third time.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—Sir, I rise to object to the bill for dentistry being read a third time to-day. It is not, as your Excellency

will see, on the orders of the day. The bill is of some importance, and I don't quite know what effect it will have on Chinese dentists' practice. I don't think, Sir, it should be hurried through until the recommendations made by the Standing Law Committee have been considered. The bill is important as affecting the qualifications of dentists, and possibly affecting Chinese dentists. I would suggest that the third reading be deferred.

His EXCELLENCY—No motion has been made to read the bill a third time to-day.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—The Hon. Attorney-General moved that the bill be read a third time.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I said "and that thereafter the bill be read a third time." That does not mean to-day. I will withdraw my motion for the adoption of the report, and will move its adoption at next meeting.

QUESTIONS.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT asked the following questions standing in his name:—

1. With reference to the Draft Supplementary Colonial Estimates giving a comparative statement of the Estimated and Actual Expenditure of the Colony for the year 1905 as presented to the Legislative Council at the last meeting, will the Honourable the Colonial Secretary state what saving, if any, has been effected in the personal emoluments of the Civil Service during that period?

2. Is the saving entirely due to the difference in the rate of exchange between that calculated on in the Estimates and the rate at which payment was made, or if to other causes, what causes?

3. On what rate were the Estimates based, and at what rate or rates were payments made?

The COLONIAL TREASURER replied as follows:—

1. The saving effected in Personal Emoluments during 1905 amounts to \$262,385.

2. Practically this saving is due to the difference between the rate of exchange fixed for the Estimates and that at which payment was made.

3. The average rate for the year at which payment was made was 1s. 1d. The Estimates were framed at the rate of 1s. 8d.

NAVAL AND MILITARY WORKS.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the construction and maintenance of certain Naval and Military Works upon and over certain portions of the Crown foreshore and sea bed situate upon the harbour frontage of the City of Victoria, in this Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

ASYLUMS BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the establishment of asylums for the custody and care of persons of unsound mind, and others. He said—The object of this Ordinance is to provide for the establishment of asylums and authorise and legalise the retention therein of persons whose state of mind renders them unable to take care of themselves. At present and for some time persons of unsound mind, commonly called lunatics, have been detained under the Common Law power which provides for the detention of any person who is unable to take care of himself and prevent him from doing mischief to others. It has now been considered better to get legislative authority to do that which has been done under Common Law authority. The Bill authorises the Governor to establish from time to time asylums in which persons of unsound mind can be taken care of. The Bill provides that the Governor shall appoint visitors to the asylums who are to make reports from time to time as they deem necessary concerning the asylums. It will be observed that the Bill contains a useful provision by which a person can be detained for observation for a short time, seven days, and if necessary he can be detained for a further period to prolong the observation. Under the provisions of the Bill a person can only be detained under the authority of a magistrate or under the authority in certain cases of the judge of the Supreme Court. The Bill further contains provisions unusual and I think useful which will be approved of by the Council, that a person taken to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from delirium tremens or should he develop delirium tremens in the hospital may be taken

and placed in the asylum for observation. I think the Bill will be found useful and effect the object we have in view.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved that the Council resolve itself into committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

On the Council resuming,

His EXCELLENCY reported that the Bill had passed through committee with certain amendments.

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorize the appropriation of a supplementary sum of two hundred and seventy-eight thousand four hundred and twelve dollars and eight cents, to defray the charges of the year 1906. He said—This Bill has passed through the Finance Committee and I have reported that that Committee recommended that the Bill may be dealt with in the same manner as a Bill recommended by a committee of the whole Council. There has been no material alteration in the Bill and in these circumstances it may be read a third time and passed if no member objects.

There being no objection,

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the Bill was passed.

THE MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY BILL.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the third reading of the bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law relating to the property of married women. He said—The Council will remember I recently brought up the report of the Law Committee to which this Bill had been referred. It was recommended that it be dealt with as a Bill that had been considered by the whole Council as a committee according to the standing rules, the Bill not having been amended or altered in committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the Bill was passed.

His EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till Thursday, June 21st.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held afterwards—the Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were passed:

GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to re-vote a sum of two thousand one hundred and sixty-four dollars (\$2,164) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Buildings—1 Government Civil Hospital—Extension to Staff Quarters.

POLICE AND PRISON DEPARTMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in aid of the vote, Police and Prison Departments, A—Police—Other Charges, for the following items:—

Meals for Prisoners in Cells, ...	\$400
Secret Service, ...	600

Total ... \$1,000.

VOLUNTEERS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of three thousand three hundred and seventy-five dollars and seventy-nine cents (\$3,375.79) in aid of the vote, Military Expenditure, B.—Volunteers—Other Charges, Rifles and Equipment.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand six hundred dollars (\$1,600) in aid of the vote, Medical Departments, Other Charges, B.—Hospitals and Asylums, Civil Hospital: Washing.

POST OFFICE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of four hundred and seventy dollars (\$470) in aid of the vote, Post Office, A.—Hongkong Post Office, Other Charges, for the following items:—

Contingencies, ...	\$50
Rent of a floor, ...	421

Total ... \$470.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—What is the rent of the floor?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Twelve times that.

Hon. Mr. POLLOCK—What does it refer to?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The floor of a house at Canton wharf to be used as a branch post office to facilitate the despatch of the Canton correspondence.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Do I understand that the Chinese post office in Hongkong will be done away with?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—It is the intention to deal with the Canton correspondence direct from the post office.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Certain arrangements made with hongs have been acted on. Have the hongs been informed of the change?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I presume the Postmaster General has informed them; I have not informed them. The new regulations have been in the *Gazette*.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Has their attention been called to it? We have made certain arrangements with the hongs and they may go on as before. The *Government Gazette* is not read by them.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—The new rules have been in force for some time.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I think you may take it that the Postmaster General will see that the arrangements affecting the hongs have been notified. The matter has been on since March.

Carried.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

MISAPPREHENSIONS SET RIGHT.

Following is the telegram referred to in the leading article dated June 15th:

LONDON, June 13th.

Mr. A. H. Lee, M.P., asked the Colonial Secretary for information of the Kowloon-Canton Railway project, especially with regard to the section of the line passing through British territory.

He asked if it was a fact that for about six months rapid and substantial progress had been made with the construction of this British section by the Public Works Department of the Government of Hongkong; if that Government was in April relieved of further responsibility; and if that work was now being continued by a special staff of engineers appointed by the Crown Agents under Colonial Office authority?

If these statements were true, he asked, would the Colonial Secretary tell the House what were the reasons for withdrawing the undertaking from the management of the Hongkong Government?

Mr. Winston Churchill replied that negotiations were still proceeding with the Chinese Government for the construction and working of the Canton-Kowloon Railway.

The British section of the line had been from the first under the supervision of the Consulting Engineer. There had been no change of policy; everything so far done had had the full concurrence of the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

Riflemen of the Reserve gathered en masse at the Kowloon range on the 9th June to witness H.E. the Governor present his 1905 Cup to Mr. J. C. Gow, the winner. His Excellency complimented Mr. Gow on his excellent shooting, also Mr. J. H. Pidgeon who was second, and Sir Francis Piggott who was third on the list.

Sir Henry Berkeley also congratulated the gentlemen who headed the scoring list for the year, and in complimenting Sir Francis Piggott remarked that the law was, as usual, clear-sighted and accurate.

The Japanese have obtained the contract for the supply of rifles for the new Chinese company of volunteers at Shanghai. They will be furnished at the price of \$15 each and will be of the Murata pattern. The *Echo de Chine* says that the greatest efforts will be made to induce young Chinese of the highest class to enrol themselves. The entry money is \$3 and each volunteer will pay a subscription per month.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on June 12th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. F. Clark (president) presided, and there were also present—Dr. Pearse, M.O.H., Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, Dr. Macfarlane, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Lieut.-Col. Sparkes, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

CONFIDENTIAL OR OTHERWISE.

Mr. HEWETT—Before you proceed with the regular business of the meeting, I would like to ask, is there any particular reason why papers Nos. 3 and 4 should be treated as confidential?

The PRESIDENT—Nos. 3 and 4 contain the advice of the law officers of the Crown.

Mr. HOOPER—Notwithstanding that, I think it is a matter of such general interest that the public should be informed of the minutes and the discussion that may arise thereon. I don't know whether it is for the President or the Board to say what shall be confidential.

The PRESIDENT—It is simply an instruction from the Government some years ago that papers containing the opinion of the law officers of the Crown should not be made public. To the best of my recollection it was an instruction received some six or eight years ago.

Mr. HOOPER—Do you consider this instruction binding on you?

The PRESIDENT.—Yes.

Mr. HOOPER—Therefore you would rule out of order any motion that they be considered in public?

The PRESIDENT—The instructions are that the opinions of the law officers of the Crown are not to be published.

Mr. HOOPER—Would you rule a motion by me that the matter be discussed in public out of order on the grounds you have stated?

The PRESIDENT—Yes, I should, pending further instructions from the Government.

Mr. HOOPER—I would like that recorded on the minutes.

Mr. HEWETT—Would it not be possible to have the papers dealt with openly but not making the legal opinion public?

The PRESIDENT—It is impossible to discuss that without discussing the law officers' opinion.

After examination of the papers,

The PRESIDENT said—I don't see any objection to these particular papers being dealt with in public.

Mr. HOOPER—That will meet my case.

The matter then dropped.

MARKET PRICES.

The committee appointed to investigate certain complaints in regard to the publication of market price lists reported:—We have investigated Dr. Pearse's complaint of April 24th that the market list published by the *South China Morning Post* on the previous day did not correspond with the Inspector of Market's list, and we attach a statement which shows the prices returned by the Inspector, the prices published by the *Morning Post* of Monday, April 23rd, and the prices published by the *Daily Press* on Saturday, April 21st, from a similar list. From this statement it would appear that in thirty-three items the *Morning Post* differs from the Inspector's list, while there are nine differences between the Inspector's list and that published by the *Daily Press*. We are satisfied that there was no intentional alteration of the figures by the newspapers, and that such discrepancies as exist have been the result of printer's errors, non-delivery of corrected lists, etc. We recommend that:—The publication of the list be continued, as we believe that it serves a useful purpose. It should be signed by the Inspector of Markets as heretofore, and with a view to avoiding mistakes in future we further recommend that the Inspector of Markets should be personally responsible for compiling the list, and should not relegate the duty to a subordinate. The Inspector should send his list to the Secretary of the Board every Tuesday morning, and a copy of this list should be sent to each English newspaper from the Sanitary Board Office as soon as possible, the Inspector's list being kept on file for three months. A statement should be added to the end of the list to the effect that the prices necessarily vary from day to day, and

that the Sanitary Board has no power to compel stall-holders to sell at the prices quoted.

The PRESIDENT—I beg to move the adoption of the report, and in doing so I should like to take the opportunity of stating that I am satisfied that the misunderstanding which arose in reference to the non-signature of the list by the Inspector of Markets was due to an oversight and was not in any way an intentional slight on the Board. The M.O.H., with whom I have discussed the matter, explained to me and I verified his statement that in his original report to the Board he stated that he had provisionally instructed the Inspector of Markets to cease signing these lists. When the matter came before the Board the wording of the resolution was such perhaps that that instruction should have been withdrawn at once, but through a misunderstanding it was not withdrawn, and when a week or two later the matter was brought up again I thought that it would be better not to again commence signing these lists and then perhaps the Board decided they should not be signed. That would lead to an inconsistency which would be undesirable and it was thought better to leave it alone until the Board decided what course should be pursued in future. The committee recommend that the publication of the list, which was begun in 1867, should be continued. I am sure it is of considerable value to many. The committee therefore recommend that the list should be signed as heretofore by the Inspector of Markets. We have suggested certain methods which we hope will obviate mistakes, except perhaps printer's errors which no one can guard against.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was carried.

LIME-WASHING PROCEDURE.

Correspondence relative to lime-washing procedure was submitted.

Dr. MACFARLANE wrote that he visited certain premises and found the lime-washing not to his satisfaction. The bye-laws stated that it had only to be done to the satisfaction of the Board, and as he was not on the committee appointed by the Board for lime-washing he did not see how he could give a decision for the Board.

The SECRETARY, in reply, pointed out that the committee only dealt with applications for exemption.

Dr. MACFARLANE then asked if he was to understand that the "lime-washing to the satisfaction of the Board" in the bye-laws meant, in Kowloon, to lime-wash to his satisfaction. He would like to have that clear, as undoubtedly opinions varied as to what was or was not satisfactory lime-washing.

The SECRETARY—The question raised by the A.M.O.H. has never, so far as I am aware, been considered by the Board and I should like to have a ruling as to whether the present procedure is satisfactory. The procedure is as follows:—(1) The notices from the owners stating that the lime-washing has been done are passed to the District Inspectors for report. (2) When the report shows that the lime-washing has not been done satisfactorily a letter is sent. (3) After a reasonable time has been allowed for the work to be done the senior inspectors then report whether the lime-washing has been satisfactorily done. (4) In Kowloon if the Senior Inspectors report that the work is still not satisfactorily done, the premises are visited by the A.M.O.H. and if he is not satisfied a prosecution is instituted. Owing to the fact that there are 10 health districts in Hongkong as against two in Kowloon the M.O.H. cannot make this final inspection and consequently legal proceedings are instituted when the lime-washing is not done to the satisfaction of the Senior Inspectors. There are thus five standards of lime-washing in Victoria, and in order to obtain as far as possible a uniformity of requirements as to lime-washing in Victoria I would suggest that the Inspection Committee be re-appointed and that the inspections take place every two months instead of as formerly every three, and that a report on the lime-washing be embodied in the general report of the committee. The Secretary concluded with a suggested re-arrangement of the staff in view of his suggestion being adopted.

The PRESIDENT stated that he understood the question of lime-washing would be dealt with by the Commission, and advised that things be

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left as they are until some decision in the matter had been arrived at. Headed that the arrangement of the Inspectors' work should be left to the M. O. H.

The SECRETARY—I have noted your instructions that the Secretary should not make suggestions to the Board relative to the arrangements of the Inspectors' work. May these papers now be circulated for a ruling from the Board in connection with the lime-washing procedure?

The PRESIDENT—Please circulate the Standing Orders made by the Board as recently as December, 1903, laying down that the M. O. H. "shall direct and superintend the work of the Sanitary Inspectors" and that the Sanitary Inspectors "shall act generally under the instructions of the M. O. H." It will lead to endless confusion if other officers of the Department send in recommendations as to how the Inspectors' work is to be distributed—unless they do so in consultation with the M. O. H. I have already referred your suggestions as to Inspector Witchell's work to the M. O. H., and he thinks that, for the present, the arrangements which exist should not be altered. The question of the re-appointment of the Inspection Committee of the Board is another matter altogether, and the present members may be glad to be reminded of its previous existence.

Mr. HUMPHREYS minuted—I question whether any inspector is capable of saying what constitutes good or inferior lime, but he is capable of judging whether it has been properly put on or not. Our lime-washing regulations open the door to more abuses than any other, and several years of enforcement have failed absolutely to show that they are of the slightest utility in checking plague. The Indian Government do not recommend lime-washing as a precautionary measure against plague. The Medical Officers of this Board admit that it has no value as a disinfectant and only uphold it on the ground that it is "conducive to cleanliness." Even for this purpose, lime-washing requires to be properly done. If there is no size the lime soon peels off the walls, and if the proper quantity of size is present, it is a question for the bacteriologist to say whether size is not one of the best of all media for breeding germs and therefore a positive danger in plague stricken districts. If the plague stricken flea theory is sound, and the Government of India—and most of the members of this Board, including myself, believe that it is, why do we authorise woodwork and debris from plague stricken houses, which may contain swarms of plague stricken fleas, to be dumped on our public thoroughfares? Might not this be the means of spreading plague to non-infected persons and houses? I would like to see the lime-washing regulations expunged from the bye-laws altogether. This could easily be done if the walls of Chinese houses were rendered in cement and the floors were of cement concrete. Any periodical cleansing that was considered necessary could be done as now by the Sanitary Board and done effectively, cheaply and without damage to property. It would cost the landlord a little more to build houses of this sort, but his hand would not always be in his pocket afterwards and the door to many abuses would be closed for ever. I appeal to the members of this Board to say whether a change such as I have indicated is not calculated to prove beneficial in every respect. No rat could get into a house except up the stairs—he certainly could not breed in it when there unless there were empty barrels or boxes lying about. I should have laid my views on the subject of lime-washing before the Commission only Mr. Pallock, the late chairman, informed me in reply to a question that the utility or otherwise of lime-washing would not be dealt with by the Commission.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER—The question of lime-washing should be fully discussed. I consider the Secretary fully within his rights in making any suggestion to the Board. Does the President admit that the Standing Orders made by the Board in December, 1903, can be enforced by the Board?

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—Such a committee is necessary if the lime-washing work is to be continued. I agree with Mr. Humphreys that the bye-law opens a door to many abuses and should be modified. As regards the Secretary's right

in making a suggestion for the consideration of the Board, I think he has that right.

Mr. HOOPER—I should like you to reply to my minute, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT—It is a technical question which I should like to refer to the law officer of the Crown to get a definite ruling on.

Mr. HEWETT—With regard to that question, it is just as well for me to state, Mr. President, that I think you will probably be asked to express your opinion on that point before the Commission on a later occasion.

The PRESIDENT—There is a recommendation in these papers that an inspection committee of the Board be appointed. Such committees have existed before; and there is no reason why they should not exist again and make such inspection of property as they might deem desirable. We are all extremely busy men and being on such a committee would involve a large amount of time, so I am somewhat diffident in moving the adoption of this committee, but the people who think very strongly that it should exist would probably like to serve on it.

Mr. HOOPER—What would be the duty of an inspection committee? You said there was one in existence before which was appointed by the Board.

The PRESIDENT—Yes, the Board has power to appoint select committees.

Mr. HEWETT—I don't quite understand the use of establishing a committee like this. It appears to me that if some dispute arose between an inspector and an owner of property the M.O.H. or other officer could check what the inspector had done and if matters were then unsatisfactory the owner of the property could refer the matter to the Board to be dealt with on its merits.

The PRESIDENT—That is exactly my view, but the Board don't see eye to eye with me in this matter. There is an officer of the Sanitary Department who devotes the whole of his time to lime-washing, and a suggestion has been put forward that a committee should be appointed to devote its time to the work, and that the inspector should do other work. Personally, I think the suggestion a foolish one, and I think it is folly because it emanated from an officer who does not supervise the detail work of the outside department. I did not wish to speak of it at all, but must say a few words now that Mr. Hewett sees my point. The district inspectors attend to some of the lime-washing and what could not be done by them was done by Inspector Witchell. Inspector Witchell has now gone on leave, so the whole thing ends in smoke. He devoted the whole of his time, six or eight hours a day, to do certain work, and it has been suggested by one of the officers of the Board that a committee should attend to that work. The folly of it is that the medical officer who arranges the details of the work of inspectors was not consulted in any way.

Mr. HOOPER—I don't think I can allow all that to pass, because Mr. Woodcock made a recommendation without consulting the medical officer. He is an officer who has had several years' experience, and any recommendation from him is worthy of consideration. I did not gather in the first place what the duty of the inspection committee was, but now I quite agree with you that it would be a foolish thing to appoint a committee of the Board to take upon themselves duties which would necessitate them going round town inspecting property for seven or eight hours a day. That could not have been in anybody's mind, but I think there would be no harm in the appointment of a committee to deal with any disputes that may occur between sanitary inspectors and owners of property as to the quality of lime-washing, and I don't think any member would object to the appointment of such a committee.

The PRESIDENT—That is a different matter.

Hon. MR. BREWIN—Surely there must be some misunderstanding. I recollect a committee existing in 1901, of which Mr. Osborne and I were members. It used to visit various parts of the town in order that members might acquaint themselves with the manner in which sanitary work was done, and as far as I can gather all Mr. Woodcock suggested was that they should inspect lime-washing at the same time.

The PRESIDENT—Pardon me, that is not all he suggests.

Mr. WOODCOCK—I did not intend it to be read that this inspection committee should spend the whole time an inspector spends on this work. An inspector is told off to do this work temporarily, and the committee formerly appointed used to meet once a quarter and go round making an inspection of houses, and whether it came across any illegality, this was pointed out. The time taken up by the committee was not more than from two to three hours in three months; they met between 2.30 and 3 p.m. and inspected certain houses until 5 p.m. My suggestion was that this committee might be revived, as I am decidedly of opinion that it did a great deal of good work in connection with sanitation. It was an inspection by members of the Board, who if they attended meetings week after week without making any practical inspections of houses did not get a good idea of the work done. So far as Mr. Witchell is concerned the suggestion so far as I meant it to be was that he was simply doing this work temporarily, and if a committee met once in two weeks they could now and then make inspection of the lime washing done in the different districts. I certainly did not intend that they should take over the whole of Mr. Witchell's work. My intention was that the committee should be re-appointed and should take a whole afternoon once in two or three months, select a number of houses and go and make an inspection.

The PRESIDENT—That wouldn't have made any difference to Mr. Witchell's work so far as I can see. I move that a committee of the Board be appointed to deal with all disputes and appeals with regard to matters in connection with lime-washing. I understand that is the wish of the Board.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Will that confine it to lime-washing?

The PRESIDENT—No. Other disputes will be dealt with.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—I understand the committee who did this work formerly did it very well, and on many occasions they found that work which ought to have been done had not been done at all, and that work had been passed which ought not to have been passed. If my recollection serves me rightly complaints were much fewer in the old days than to-day. I consider this committee would be a check on the inspectors, and anything that is a check on the inspectors is not only to the best interest of landlord and tenant, but of the whole Colony.

The PRESIDENT—Will you second the motion?

Mr. HUMPHREYS—if the committee to be appointed will be similar to the previous one.

The PRESIDENT—it is a question whether members of the Board have a right to enter domestic buildings.

Mr. HOOPER—As a Board have not we the power our servants have?

The PRESIDENT—They have more in some ways.

Mr. HOOPER—But not in all.

The PRESIDENT—I don't know of any section which gives us power to enter a building except section 23. As we will require to hunt through the Ordinance, I think, perhaps, the matter had better stand over.

The matter was deferred.

MORTALITY AT MACAO.

The mortality return from Macao for the week ending 28th May showed that the total number of deaths was 89. Only two of these came under the heading "Portuguese" a term which embraces Europeans, Eurasians and Asiatics (Chinese Catholics). The death rate per 1,000 per annum, on these figures, was 59.0.

WATER ANALYSIS.

The report on the various services stated that the results of the analyses "show that the water is of excellent quality".

PLAQUE AT YAUMATI POLICE STATION.

Dr. MACFARLANE having reported the occurrence of three cases of plague at the Yaumati Police Station, the P.C.M.O. recommended that the place be vacated until it could be thoroughly overhauled, but the Captain Superintendent of Police reported that he had no place in which to house the men. It was therefore suggested that temporary quarters

should be obtained for the men who sleep on the premises.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR said—I have instructed the Captain Superintendent of Police to hire quarters for his men near the Yau-tai Police Station, and to transfer the men there as soon as possible.

Dr. MACFARLANE recommended the transfer of the men to the isolation block providing the Chinese occupying the three ground floors were allowed to return to their own houses in Station Street which were closed by order of the Board. There had been no plague in their families and they only came from houses where there had been plague on the upper floors. This would leave the ground floors empty, and the police could be put on the first and second floors which were well ventilated and clean.

The PRESIDENT said he had no objection, and had informed the Captain Superintendent of Police that the block could be used temporarily.

Mr. F. J. BADELEY reported that the man had been removed into the said flats.

His EXCELLENCE approved, and said the charge should be made against a plague item of the Sanitary Board.

CEILINGS AND PLAGUE.

Correspondence was submitted relative to the removal of ceilings during the cleansing and disinfecting of premises.

Dr. MACFARLANE wrote as follows regarding plague in block 36 60, Portland Street, Mong Kok:—In the above block of 13 three-storied houses six cases of plague have occurred during the week, so that a strong centre of plague seems to have been established there. We are unable to obtain an isolation block sufficiently large to take in all this block. I would recommend that the whole block be washed under our supervision with Jayes' fluid and that any ceilings in the block be removed. Legal notices could be served for any other defec's found. Do you approve of this disinfection and removal of ceilings?

The PRESIDENT—Yes, certainly you have power to do this under bye-law I. for the prevention or mitigation of epidemic, if done under your personal direction. This does not mean that you are to stand by while the work is in progress, but merely that you are personally to inspect the premises and give directions on the spot before the work is commenced.

Dr. MACFARLANE—Under section I. of the prevention and mitigation of infectious diseases bye-laws I would recommend that all the remaining verandah ceilings be removed from this infected block. In several cases lately we have found dead rats in the ceilings of houses in which cases of plague have occurred. It seems to me well to get as many ceilings down as possible and if possible when there is no case of plague actually in the house. The tearing down of a ceiling during cleaning after a plague case must be much more alarming to the people than if it were done when they were not already frightened of a death. As this will involve a considerable number of ceilings if carried out, I should think it advisable that the owner be informed beforehand so that he can express any views he may have on the matter.

The SECRETARY—Whenever in the opinion of the M.O.H. or the A.M.O.H. it is necessary for the thorough cleaning and disinfecting of any premises all ceilings can be removed. As this power now extends to any part of the City of Victoria and Old Kowloon, the Board might like to give a ruling in connection with the matter.

The PRESIDENT—On April 23rd, 1903, the Board defined the City of Victoria and Old Kowloon as districts within which the provisions of the Prevention of (Plague) Bye-laws might be carried out, and continuously since that date houses within these districts have been inspected and cleansed with a view to investigating the incidence of plague—that is to say, this cleansing goes on throughout the year, and year by year, as part of the scheme accepted by the Board for dealing with plague. Dr. McFarlane reports a block of 13 three-storied houses in Mong Kok in which six cases of plague have occurred. He says that some of the houses have ceilings and that lately he has found dead rats within the ceilings of houses in which plague has occurred. He recommends that

these ceilings be removed, and opines that it will produce less alarm if such ceilings are taken down in connection with the general cleansing of the block rather than when a case of plague has occurred in a house and the people are already in a state of alarm. I take it that this is the point on which he desires the opinion of the Board.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK minuted—Pay compensation for the ceilings as in the case of plague-infected houses.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN—I don't think the ceilings should be pulled down.

The Hon. Mr. BREWIN—Cannot the owner be persuaded to approve of the removal of the ceilings, and the work be paid for by the Board?

The M.O.H.—It would be a very excellent thing if the Board would agree to allow ceilings to be taken down systematically.

Mr. HOOPER—Do you mean we should give a general authorisation to the Board's officers to go into any building and pull down the ceiling? If so I am dead against it. We couldn't do anything like that; it wouldn't work.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—Are these ceilings put back again?

The PRESIDENT—No, that is the whole object in taking them down. I think we need not go into the general question now. We have got a specific instance of a block of 13 three-storied houses in which the A.M.O.H. at Kowloon reports that the ceilings in his opinion ought to come down. Will the Board authorise him to arrange matters with the owner?

Mr. HOOPER—Before that is settled I shou'd like one point cleared up. Supposing it was my house and the Board's officers take down the ceiling: considerable damage is done to the cornices of the roof, the joists, etc. Is that made good, and at whose expense?

The PRESIDENT—At the expense of the owner, and the compensation he gets covers any repairs.

Mr. HOOPER—How is that? If the Government pull down a ceiling they must complete the job. I have known cases where they have pulled down ceilings and left them in a dirty ragged condition. Surely they must repair the damage done. I think it is only reasonable.

The PRESIDENT—I said the compensation would cover cases of that description.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—No.

Mr. HOOPER—The President said so.

The PRESIDENT—Yes.

Mr. HOOPER—I am quite satisfied with your answer if you still maintain that that is so.

The PRESIDENT—It depends entirely on what amount of trimming up the owner wants. You are not talking about painting?

Mr. HOOPER—Making good the joists.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—It is difficult to make any statement about these matters off hand. \$5 might repair the damage or it might not. If the place were painted it would probably run into a great deal more.

Mr. HOOPER moved that the officers of the Board be instructed to remove the ceilings of the houses in question, and that the floors and walls be made good after the removal by painting the necessary woodwork and making good the broken places.

The PRESIDENT—It must be subject to the approval of the expenditure by the Government.

Mr. HOOPER—I make my motion subject to that.

Mr. HUMPHREYS seconded, and the motion was carried.

AN APOLOGY.

The PRESIDENT—Some few months ago I gave a pledge to this Board that every application addressed to the Board should be laid before it. It has been brought to my notice that one particular application dated May 17th was dealt with by me without reference to the Board. It was practically an application for the modification of a bye-law in the regulations. I admit I was in error in giving the instructions I did, but as soon as it came to my notice I inquired if in any other similar cases I had acted that way. I understand there were no others, and can only express my regret and say that in future I will circulate papers at once.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, June 11th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
(SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

A DISPUTED WILL.

The case of Li Po-kwai and another v. Li Ling-shi and another was resumed. This was a claim under a will for one sixteenth part of marine lot 239 and inland lot 1,855 and for account of the rent and profits thereon. Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. John Hastings, appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. Harding (of Messrs. Ewens, Harston, and Harding), appeared for defendants.

After hearing further evidence His Lordship reserved judgment.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A SUBADAR SUED.

The case was concluded in which Akbar Khan sued Subadar Mahomet Ali, H.K.S.B.R.G.A., to recover the sum of \$923.64 on account of principal and interest due on money lent.

Mr. F. P. Hett (of Messrs. Bruton and Hett) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. H. Gardiner (of Mr. O. D. Thomson's office) represented the defendant.

His Lordship recalled the plaintiff.

Do you remember when you got your \$900 in 1905?—Yes.

Very well; at that time according to your statement you lent him three sums, \$670 in March, 1903, and subsequently sums of \$500 and \$400?—Yes.

Then he repaid you \$900?—Yes.

Did you take that \$900 in payment of the \$500 and \$400?—Yes.

His Lordship (to Mr. Hett)—Then you are barred as to the \$670.

Mr. Hett—But there was a subsequent promise to pay.

His Lordship—You must prove it.

Mr. Gardiner—That is not admitted.

J. Joshi said he was manager of Soonderdas, Arton and Co., and he kept the plaintiff's money for him. He paid on the plaintiff's account in February \$500, and \$170 in March. In November, 1905, plaintiff and defendant called at witness' office. Plaintiff told him defendant was going to pay \$900 for which he wanted a receipt. Defendant then asked if there was any balance against him and the plaintiff said \$670 and interest. Defendant admitted that he had to pay this amount, and said he would do so in three or four weeks.

Didn't defendant say anything about army regulations when he asked you for this receipt?—I don't remember.

Was anything mentioned about a promissory note?—No.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gardiner—You were a judge or something in India, weren't you?—I was in the High Court in India.

And it is rather a hobby of yours taking up cases for other people?—What do you mean by hobby?

Something you take a fancy to.—That would be a curious man.

His Lordship (to witness)—I wish I had known you before; since Cassimbboy died I have not had an adviser among the Indians.

Mr. Gardiner—You are a business man as well as a lawyer, aren't you?—I am not a lawyer.

Well you were a judge?—I was a nazir.

Mr. Gardiner—I don't know what that means; but I suppose it's something big. Continuing—Why didn't you show on the receipt that the \$900 paid was paid on account?—I never thought of it.

But you are a business man; why didn't you?—I have explained.

Mr. Gardiner—But you don't explain on the receipt. Do you go in for racing, Mr. Joshi? Yes, I go sometimes, and I have seen you there.

That's also a little hobby of yours?—Yes.

Mahomet Ali was called for the defence. He said he had known the plaintiff about three and a half years. He left for England in August, 1902, and returned in February, 1903, with about £3¹. He owed nothing here then. He did not receive the \$670 for which the plaintiff was suing, only the \$90⁰ which he had since repaid. He had to resort to borrowing on account of a civil action in India with which he was connected. Witness signed a promissory note for the \$500 he borrowed on July 6th. He approached plaintiff again on the 12th for another \$400, which plaintiff agreed to advance for a promissory note. The note was produced and the money handed over. Some time later plaintiff approached him and asked for the repayment of \$430. The amount was not paid then, but he settled in full in November. At the meeting at Mr. Joshi's house there was no mention of an amount of \$670 the plaintiff now claimed.

Cross-examined.—In March, 1903, he remitted \$337 to India, and on his return to the Colony in March, 1904, he remitted \$114. The promissory notes were mentioned in the presence of Mr. Joshi, and he told Mr. Joshi to mention the cheques in the receipt.

To his Lordship—Nothing was said about interest on the \$900.

On resuming after tiffin, his Lordship said he did not wish to hear further evidence, and requested Mr. Hett to address him.

Then, in summing up, he stated that this case belonged to the unsatisfactory class which so often cropped up. Whatever the state of feeling between the parties was at one time, there was not the slightest doubt that at present some friction existed between them. Apparently Mr. Joshi acted as banker on behalf of the plaintiff, and his books showed that in March, 1903, Akbar Khan drew two sums for \$500 and \$170. Curiously enough the claim was for \$670, but the plaintiff in his own evidence stated that he only drew \$430 and that the balance of \$670 came out of his own pocket. His Lordship thought it just possible that the plaintiff drew \$670, but was doubtful if he ever lent that sum to the defendant. On the face of the evidence he came to the conclusion that this loan of \$670 was never made. Judgment would therefore be given for the defendant with costs.

Thursday, June 14th.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A BANK DISPUTE.

The Fung Tak bank sued the Wai Wing Hong bank to recover the sum of \$4,049.60, principal and interest due on two deposit notes or receipts made and given by the defendant bank.

Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. H. K. Holmes, appeared for the plaintiffs, while Mr. F. P. Hett (of Messrs. Bruton and Hett) watched the case on behalf of the defendants, who were absent.

In the pleadings Lai Tim-pang, managing partner of the plaintiff bank, stated that on April 29th, 1903, the plaintiffs deposited several sums of \$2,000 each with the defendant bank for a fixed period of two months at interest at the rate of \$6.20 per mile per month. The period had expired, and demand been made for the repayment of the amount claimed, which was still due and owing.

Kwok Yik-wan, managing partner of the defendant bank, stated that so far as he knew there was no such bank as the plaintiff bank in the Colony. There was a bank carrying on business under that name in Canton, and the deposit notes, if they were genuine, were issued to the Canton bank, and had probably been fraudulently obtained.

After hearing the evidence of Lai Tim-pang, his Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff bank with costs.

It appears we have shortly to welcome a new English contemporary, the *Canton Daily News*, which is announced to start on July 1st. Herr. Malade, a gentleman well known to German newspaperdom in North China, is the founder.

SHANGHAI TRADE REPORT.

The following extracts relating to Shanghai trade in 1905 are taken from the third fascicle issued by the I.M.C. (Central ports):—

From many standpoints 1905 may be regarded as a "record" year and as far ahead of any preceding. The gross value of the trade was Hk. Tls. 443,954,262, and the net value Hk. Tls. 176,979,193, showing increase of 39 and 31½ million taels respectively over the 1904 totals; and this result is the more satisfactory as serious forces militated against a prosperous season, viz., the war which during the greater part of the year raged in the North, the boycott against goods of American provenance, and the disastrous flood of the 1st September—it was only on the 31st August that news arrived of negotiations having taken a favourable turn and that the Treaty of Peace was on the point of being signed. Unfortunately, one of the clauses inserted in the Protocol—"maritime captures shall not be suspended pending the coming into force of the Treaty of Peace" (that is, for a further period of 50 days)—did not allow shipments of cargo to take place until late in the season and when winter was nearly at hand. As soon as the Treaty was ratified and the coast clear, shiploads of provisions and foodstuffs of all kinds were sent from here, and it is said that very handsome profits were realised by local shippers; but owing to the lateness of the season and the troubled state of Vladivostock, the normal condition of that particular trade had not been properly resumed when the year closed.—The so-called "boycott" against goods of American provenance, as a retaliation against the Immigration Prohibition Treaty of 1894, threatened at one time to assume large proportions, and would have created a dangerous precedent for the future. This agitation, however, as far as Shanghai was concerned, was not of long duration, and keen traders as the Chinese are, they soon found out that it was wiser to abandon a suicidal policy, and to adopt measures of a more conciliatory character, if they wanted to obtain from the American Government any modifications of the existing immigration rules.

REVENUE.—The total collection was Hk. Tls. 12,080,185—an increase of 1½ million taels over the total in the preceding year and of 1½ millions over that for 1902, the best year on record. Nearly the whole of this gain is accounted for under "Imports."

FOREIGN TRADE—(a.) Imports.—The gross value of arrivals aggregated 259½ million taels, against 196.9 million in 1904—an increase of 31 per cent.; and the net value of Foreign Imports amounted to 92 million taels, as against 45 millions—an increase of more than 100 per cent. over the figures of the previous year. From the mere comparison of these totals, one would be inclined to jump to the conclusion that the power of absorption of the Shanghai market has vastly increased, and that this large advance in the values of the net Imports represents a corresponding increase in the local consumption. This, however, is far from being the case, and the increase is accounted for by large stocks, especially in Cotton Goods, which had to be carried over when the year closed. The Piece Goods trade of Shanghai during the period under review has been subject to a series of ups and downs. The capacity of traders has been severely tried in coping with the various difficulties that have presented themselves, and the success with which these obstacles have been surmounted affords strong evidence of fertility of resources. With remarkable prescience, which was justified in the event, some of the leading dealers conceived the idea comparatively early in 1904 that the time had come to order supplies of Cotton Goods in the Manchester market for the following season. Their example was tardily followed, as it was not at first known with any degree of certainty what the American Cotton crop would amount to; when its shortness became more apparent others followed suit, and the Foreign importing firms who had special chops on cloths that had been established for years found it necessary to cover their estimate of requirements much further ahead than they had ever done before. Manchester thought that the demand for China was out of all reason, and India kept quietly out of the market and awaited her opportunity of obtaining supplies at lower rates. The consequence of this buying for China was that goods commenced arriving here freely early in 1905 and stocks began to accumulate—American makes also participating, although operations in New York did not begin until somewhat later than they did in Manchester. Manufacturers in the States pursued a much more conservative policy, and as Cotton by this time had declined so much, owing to the bumper crop of 1904, the heroic suggestion was made (and in one or two instances really acted on) of burning the raw staple in order to curtail the supply. The consumptive demand, however, saved the situation, and prices have steadily risen until 6 1/10d. was reached in Liverpool at the close of the year—in advance of over 50 per cent. in the 12 months. The most prominent feature to be noted is the enormous development in the importation of American domestic Cotton cloths, the increase being rather more than 20 per cent. over the total in the previous year and 160 per cent. over the average of the preceding nine years. The heavy stocks carried over plainly show that supply has outstripped demand for the time being, although the high prices now ruling in the States are likely to adjust this excess before many months are over. For the first six months of the year, aided somewhat in the latter part of that time by the cessation of hostilities between Russia and Japan, no fault could be found with the trade, clearances being well over the average for the same period; but, nevertheless, stocks were accumulating. This was not considered serious until the boycott on American goods started, on the 20th July, and then for the rest of the year the Piece Goods trade was in difficulties. The boycott movement lasted until the beginning of September, and extended to English makes almost as much as American, the market being still further depressed by an intensely hot summer and the demoralisation of the Native markets in the country owing to the promiscuous coinage of copper 10-cash pieces. Then on the 1st September came the greatest disaster, of all, the flood, which affected millions of taels worth of goods in Shanghai, and thus furnished enough damaged stock to supply the market for weeks. Good White Shirtings, White Irises, and Dyed and Printed goods suffered the most; and though the Native dealers, who were in the majority of cases the indentors of the parcels, should have suffered the whole loss, they were helped out of it to a considerable extent by the Foreign importers. This was not considered serious until the boycott on American goods started, on the 20th July, and then for the rest of the year the Piece Goods trade was in difficulties. The boycott movement lasted until the beginning of September, and extended to English makes almost as much as American, the market being still further depressed by an intensely hot summer and the demoralisation of the Native markets in the country owing to the promiscuous coinage of copper 10-cash pieces. Then on the 1st September came the greatest disaster, of all, the flood, which affected millions of taels worth of goods in Shanghai, and thus furnished enough damaged stock to supply the market for weeks. Good White Shirtings, White Irises, and Dyed and Printed goods suffered the most; and though the Native dealers, who were in the majority of cases the indentors of the parcels, should have suffered the whole loss, they were helped out of it to a considerable extent by the Foreign importers. It is feared that a fairly large quantity is being carried over, and the loss is bound to be very heavy. Fluctuations in exchange, stringency in the money market, and local disturbances marked the rest of the year. There was but little of the usual autumn demand for forward indents. Manufacturers are fully engaged with previous orders for months ahead—in fact, extending well into the summer months of 1906. The operators in heavy American goods specially and most of the Plain Manchester fabrics have undoubtedly done a satisfactory year's trading, on the whole, as would those who were interested in White Irises and Printed and Dyed goods, had they not sustained such severe losses owing to the flood. Some of those, however, who were more prominent in starting the early buying rather overreached themselves in their exchange operations, that important factor taking exactly the opposite course at the conclusion of the war to what was almost universally expected, and this accounts in great measure for the comparatively poor results that Manchester Grey goods have in those cases brought to their indentors. The Woollen trade is scarcely holding its own, the offtake of all kinds showing a considerable reduction. The consumption of Cotton Yarn has also been smaller, judging by re-exports; but the trade has been satisfactory to those engaged in it, especially as regards Japanese spinnings. In Metals the most remarkable feature is the large advance under Copper Slabs and Ingots, which was already pronounced in 1904, the net import during the year under review amounting to more than 250,000 piculs, or four times the 1904 total. For the first time the statistical tables record an importation of nearly 70,000 piculs of Copper Discs, valued at Hk. Tls. 3,000,000, which found their way to the various provincial Mints whence they were issued in the shape of 10-cash pieces. In Old Metals it was thought at one

time that there would be a brisk business on the cessation of hostilities, but this was not borne out by results; the dealers, however, helped by the advance in exchange, and later on by the steadiness of rates, seem to be quite satisfied with their profits. The business done in Kerosene Oil falls very far below that of the year 1904, which was the largest on record, the deliveries showing a shortage of 2,312,623 cases. In American Oil a very large business was done in the early part of the year, but in the latter part transactions were limited, and the stocks remaining are unusually heavy. As regards prices, importers did fairly well, but an absence of demand in the country entailed heavy losses for the dealers during the latter months of the year. Refined Sugars, owing to the moderate crop of cane Sugar and the partial failure of the beet crop, were quoted at fairly high figures when the year began, and continued to be in good demand until about the end of September, when favourable report of the new crops caused prices to fall suddenly and rapidly; from this time on the trade was depressed and prices gradually declined. To a certain extent prices were also affected by the fact that large quantities of Japanese Sugar were put on the Shanghai and northern markets. On the whole, the year was an unprofitable one for the Chinese Sugar merchants, the majority of whom have lost heavily on forward purchases. There was a fairly good business done in Cardiff Coal; but prices gradually fell from Tls. 13 to Tls. 12 per ton, and are hardly likely to advance, dealers being afraid that the large stock still in the hands of the Russian Government may at any time come into the market. The reverse occurred as regards Japan Coal, in which important transactions took place. The higher cost of labour in Japan and the much greater amount of Coal used by the Japanese mercantile marine caused a rise in the price of Tls. 3 to Tls. 4 per ton.

(b.) Exports and (c.) Re-exports.—A decrease of 22 million taels, or 17 per cent., in the value of this trade, compared with that of 1904, is disclosed by the Returns. To this large decline Raw Cotton contributed the largest share. The export of Cotton shows a large falling off from the high figures of the preceding year—about 485,000 piculs, of which 279,000 piculs are re-exports and 206,000 piculs exports. The area planted locally was reported as very large, and the crop promised extremely well until the floods in September, which did considerable damage in some districts and in many others stopped the steady development of the plants, with a consequent lessening of production and deterioration of quality. In spite of these drawbacks the crop was probably as large as that of 1904. The decreased export is due to high exchange, more cautious buying on the part of exporters, and efforts on the part of producers to maintain prices, the stock remaining on hand at the end of the year being much larger than at the beginning. The abnormal prices of 1904 have not been maintained, the general trend having been to lower and steadier values. Other important decreases are also shown under Hides (34 per cent.), White Raw Silk (30 per cent.), Wild Raw Silk (31 per cent.), and Black Tea 50 per cent.). Among the goods that show marked improvements will be found Fresh and Preserved Eggs (75 per cent.), Sesamum Seed (270 per cent.), and Waste Silk (37 per cent.). Japan alone took 10 million taels worth of goods less than in the previous year. The business done in Silk was very limited. For the fourth year in succession the White Silk crop was only a small one, and the increased Native consumption tends to accentuate the deficiency caused by indifferent crops. In the export of Raw Silk to Foreign countries there was a decrease of 5,002 piculs, and Re-reeled fell from 12,964 to 8,856 piculs. The shipments to France alone show shortages of 3,704 bales in White Raw and 2,832 bales in Re-reeled. On the other hand, the departures of Re-reeled for America continued steady throughout the season. In Steam Filatures the export figures differ but slightly from those of the previous year. A partial failure of the cocoon crop in Chekiang and heavy speculative purchases brought the prices to a level which the losses incurred in 1904 hardly justified. Subsequently, with an advance in the Silk market during July, August, and September, prospects brightened up; but the grip in sterling exchange which characterised the

latter part of the year soon paralysed all transactions in Silk, and it may be said that for nine-tenths of the Shanghai Silk filatures the year has been an unprofitable one. In Straw Braid the receipts at Shanghai of transhipment cargo and that intended for the local market show an increase of 4,264 bales over the total of the previous year—not an unsatisfactory result, considering that the reduction of homeward freights from Tsingtao enabled steamers to take cargo from that port direct to Europe at lower rates than those demanded from Shanghai to the same destination. There was a falling off in all descriptions of Mottled plaits, Tuscan, Pearls, and Fancies and a decided increase in Plain White, Plain Splits, and Cords. The American market took the most expensive Fine Splits, Plain White, and Fine Mottled Braids, the value of which is much greater than the ordinary coarse cargo shipped to Great Britain and the Continental ports. Taking the violent fluctuations of exchange during the year into consideration, prices have been remarkably steady, and may be said to have advanced largely when reduced to a sterling basis. A comparison of the special tables giving the Tea exported during the years 1904 and 1905 shows considerable decreases in the export of Black Tea to Great Britain and the United States. The Hankow market opened late in the season; the protracted wet weather had retarded the preparation of the leaf, and Foreign buyers were not anxious to operate until better acquainted with the damage done. In Green Tea, business on the whole has been satisfactory, especially to those interested in the English market, and this despite the larger quantity shipped there during the year. The lower grades were mostly favoured, and in good demand at very full rates, much against the generally expressed opinion. All experts seem to agree as to the inferiority this season of both the Black and Green Tea leaf, but nevertheless both staples appreciated in the consuming markets to an extent little anticipated by shippers.

COAST TRADE.—(a.) Original Shipments Coastwise.—This trade represents a value of 314 million taels—an increase of 4½ million taels over the figures for 1904. Shipments to Nanchang alone advanced from Hk. Tls. 5,924,000 to Hk. Tls. 9,677,000. Local industries seem to have done well, and important increase are recorded in the export to coast ports of Native-made Cigarettes and milled Flour and Paper. There is a falling off in the departures of Shanghai-made Sheetings and Drills, but from a money-making point of view 1905 is said to have been the most satisfactory year since the Cotton mills employing Foreign machinery started.

(c.) Coastwise Arrivals.—As compared with the total in the preceding year, the decrease in the value of this trade amounts to 15½ million taels, more than half of which is accounted for under Raw Cotton. The port chiefly concerned in this result is Hankow, and among the other goods mostly affected are Cow and Buffalo Hides, Sesamum Seed, White Raw Silk, Wild Silk, and Black Tea.

Inland Transit.—(a) Inwards—The value of the trade was Hk. Tls. 1,548,978 or Hk. Tls. 323,000 less than in 1904.

Shipping.—Entries and clearances represent 10,265 vessels and 14,344,162 tons—an increase of 831 vessels and 2,162,364 tons on the figures of the preceding year. On the Shanghai-Soochow-Hangchow lines the number of steam-launches, passenger-boats, and trading junks is yearly increasing, and the tonnage employed in that traffic amounted to over 1,100,000 tons. There is also a fair improvement in the trade carried on under Iuland Steam Navigation Rules. The year was not a good one for freight, and certainly unprofitable for many of the outside boats, with the exception of those which had big charters with the Russian Government. The great expectations in the freight market of a boom on the cessation of hostilities were not realised, and though the rates for Vladivostok were in certain instances very high, a large part of the profit was eaten up by the delay in loading and discharging. Passenger Traffic is yearly increasing.

Treasure.—The recorded movements of Gold and Silver Bullion between Shanghai and Foreign countries show a net import of Gold worth Hk. Tls. 7,164,000, and a net import of

Silver to the value of Hk. Tls. 8,968,000. As was the case in 1904, there were important arrivals from Japan of Gold Coins, valued at 10½ million taels, and no indication is given in the statistical table as regards their further destination; we have, however, good reasons to suppose that the bulk were melted down here into Gold Bars and eventually forwarded to Europe, chiefly through the medium of Union post offices. During 1905 silver reached its highest level since 1896, and the price almost touched 32d. There was a large demand for the East and an increase in the shipments to China Exchange, which at the beginning of the year was nominally 2s. 9d. for the Shanghai tea, touched its lowest, 2s. 6d., in March and April, and then steadily rose to 2s. 0d. at the close.

Opium.—(a.) Foreign.—Malwa shows a decline of nearly 5,000 piculs, the high rates which obtained during the first part of the year having evidently tended to reduce the consumption. The highest prices, Tls. 840 to Tls. 1,080 according to age and quality, were quoted during June and July; prices then commenced to recede, until by the end of the year they stood at Tls. 740 to Tls. 890, or at lower figures than when the year began. In Bengal the heavy stocks carried over from the previous season, and a very successful crop of China Opium, kept prices down and depressed the markets. The arrivals exceeded by some 1,200 piculs those of 1,204. (b) Native.—A full crop, as in the preceding year. The arrivals of Szechuan and Yunnan Opium show increases of 3,025 piculs and 715 piculs respectively.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

JUNE 13TH.

THE YUET-HAN RAILWAY.

Owing to the disagreement that still continues between Viceroy Shum and the gentry and merchants the present situation of the Canton-Hankow Railway scheme is far from satisfactory, and is causing great anxiety both to the people and to Viceroy Chang Chi-tung, who is very anxious to see the line started at once. It is reported that H. E. Chang Chi-tung has secretly deputed Taotai Chan Sui-kwai to make enquiries regarding the causes of the misunderstanding so as to devise means to straighten matters and proceed forthwith with the construction of the line.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.

During the heavy thunderstorm that swept across Canton a couple of days ago several houses are reported to have collapsed and two men were struck by lightning and killed outright. The victims were a barber and his client.

A MISTAKEN SEIZURE.

Last year at the request of Viceroy Shum all the so-called Japanese coffee shops were ordered to close their business by the Japanese Consul General at Hongkong. Some of the shops were subsequently seized by the Viceroy as they were owned by Chinese subjects. One of the houses seized belonged, however, to a Hongkong shipping firm and representations were recently made through H. B. M. Consul-General, who claimed the return of the house. The Viceroy being satisfied that the titles were in order has instructed the Nam-Hoi to release the house.

A BORED GOVERNMENT.

Viceroy Shum has again sent a very strong memorial to the Throne against ex-Viceroy Hui Yung-kwai and the merchants and gentry of Canton. The memorial is said to be very strongly worded, but its contents have not been divulged so far. The gentry and the Viceroy are accusing each other with obstructing the prompt construction of the line. It is said that the Central Government is "bored" by these continuous complaints from both sides.

THE SINKING SHIP?

At least four Taotais, proteges of the Viceroy, have resigned and returned to their native places.

ALLIED POLICE DISHONESTY.

The Canton Superintendent of Police now shifts his men about a general change of posts every fortnight. This is in consequence of numerous complaints of "squeezes."

MACAO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 14th.

AVENIDA "VASCO DA GAMA."

This is one of the popular resorts of Macao. Many are the tourists who make it a point to see and admire the arrangement and cleanliness of this spot. It is a pity that in this lovely place the statueless pedestal cannot be filled as originally intended. It was meant for a monument to commemorate the fourth centenary of the discovery of the sea route to the Far East by Vasco da Gama some eight or nine years ago, but nothing has been done to complete it. I fear that no statue will now be forthcoming. I suggest that the pedestal be removed. It is not a nice thing as it is.

OUR NEGLECTED HARBOUR.

Our harbour is fast silting up. Can not our Government move in the matter of dredging? Otherwise, our port will soon be entirely closed to all kinds of shipping; it will practically compel steamers of even the smallest tonnage to anchor some eight or ten miles away from the port. The Steamboat Company have taken the trouble to prepare a schedule of time of departure to suit our tide during the summer months, and although the Company strictly adheres to it for the safety of their steamer and the convenience of their passengers, the *Heungshan* finds a good deal of difficulty and risk in reaching her wharf every afternoon. There is always the fear of touching bottom and sticking in the mud.

INFLUX OF VISITORS.

There will probably be a large influx of visitors from Hongkong next Sunday, as the annual procession of St. Anthony will take place in the afternoon. Besides the usual small steamers, the *Heungshan* will make her first excursion trip next Sunday.

BANCO ULTRAMARINO.

This Bank will remove its office to the same building as the Fazenda at the end of this month. This removal is to facilitate the working of the Bank as the Government paying bank.

CHINESE SUBSIDIARY COINS.

Inhabitants of Macao are also experiencing the same difficulty in getting rid without loss of the Chinese subsidiary coins with which they are flooded. For \$100 in bank notes you can now obtain \$106 in Chinese coins.

THE WEATHER.

We are having exceptionally warm weather for the past few days, and although we have had occasional showers, these do not tend to lessen the heat very much.

AMOV.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 11th.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Lieut.-Colonel Mackenzie, Secretary to the Kulangsu Municipal Council, resigned his position some time ago, and goes home early next month. He is succeeded in office by Mr. Mitchell, late of the West Kent Regiment, who arrived a few days ago.

During his term of office Lieut.-Colonel Mackenzie has done most excellent work for the Council; he has been at the head of affairs about four years. The many improvements made throughout the Settlement reflect great credit on Colonel Mackenzie's organizing abilities. The roads are now in a very good condition; and the sanitary arrangements have been so well managed that the settlement has had only four cases of plague since its inauguration. The Mixed Court, where all cases against natives are tried, was organized by the Colonel, and it has proved itself to be an indispensable institution. In dealing with the Chinese officials, Colonel Mackenzie has shown great tact and discretion, and they, in appreciation of his excellent services to the native community, petitioned the Chinese Bureau of Foreign Affairs at Peking, with the result that Colonel Mackenzie was decorated with the Order of the "Kung-Pai." The residents of Kulangsu wish Colonel Mackenzie and his family a bon voyage and a happy time in the homeland.

WRECK OF THE "M. STRUVE."

The wreck of the German s.s. *M. Struve*, which went ashore on the island of Ocksen some months ago, slid off the rocks and sank in 30 fathoms of water. H.B.M. Consul at this port, on behalf of the British syndicate which purchased the wreck, is now in correspondence with the native officials of Ocksen to have inquiries made as to who the culprits were who stripped the wreck of all its fittings and to have them return what was stolen.

SHIPPING IN INDO-CHINA.

A statement of the commercial shipping in Indo-China during 1905 shows that there has been a decrease compared with the previous year. The arrivals were:

Flags	Number	Ton.	Number	Ton.
French	274	698,178	293	507,508
German	162	205,915	183	212,827
English	140	284,277	197	424,919
Norwegian	58	61,620	65	84,182
American	40	50,588	52	69,480
Italian	2	2,635	—	—
Swedish	—	—	5	5,700
Danish	8	10,374	—	—
Dutch	9	2,682	2	3,477
Russian	11	46,185	—	—
Launches Chin.	1	139	2	215
Junks Chin.	958	26,581	1,623	30,136
Junks Annam	51	684	24	121

Total. 1,708 1,389,758 2,446 1,338,565

Although the ships carrying the French flag were fewer in number than in 1904 they represented a greater tonnage, the increase being 51,193 tons.

The departures were:

Flags	Number	1905.	1904.
		Number	Ton.
French	284	704,983	279
English	143	291,486	194
German	158	196,843	187
Norwegian	60	63,969	68
American	39	49,267	51
Swedish	39	—	6,840
Dutch	2	1,397	2
Italian	2	3,014	—
Japanese	1	321	1
Austrian	—	—	—
Russian	10	44,785	—
Danish	8	10,34	—
Junks Chin.	623	17,580	1,217
Junks Annam	110	856	85

Totals 1,449 1,384,875 2,090 1,257,049

The decrease is 650 vessels, but the tonnage again shows an advance.

POSSIBLE DUEL AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai Foreign Settlement, twentieth century, and a duelling challenge! That is what it amounts to. Mr. Putnam Weale in his last book having referred to the conduct of the Italian troops at Peking in 1900, Major Nerazzini, Consul at Shanghai, writes that the author "grossly lied." In the following extract it is clearly suggested that if the English writer has sufficient honourability, he may stand up to a gentleman in uniform. Pistols for two, Happy Valley for one.

"The officers of the Italian Navy, who with right have to protect the glorious memory of their fellow brothers who fell in Peking, will do it by taking all those necessary steps which they will think fit to that effect, having first of all to carefully investigate the position of the author of the said book, in order to ascertain whether or not his honourability is up to such a grade as to allow him to be compared to those who with honour wear a military uniform."

Mr. Weale happened to be staying in Shanghai, and replied, quoting other writers to confirm his statements. As to a duel, we take the following to mean that he prefers a writ to a revolver.

"Finally the impertinence which the Italian Consul-General permits himself in assuming that he will investigate the position of the author would be promptly corrected did not the official position of a Consular representative of foreign nationality so shield him. Mr. Putnam Weale would beg to call attention, too, to the fact that he is neither an Italian subject nor yet a Spanish subject. He has the honour of

being a British subject, and his conduct at all times is open to investigation under the usual legal forms in the Supreme Court of his Sovereign King Edward VII., whom God preserve."

In continuation of the above note we quote the following letter from the *N.C. Daily News*:

Sir.—It is only right that I should inform you that I have received to-day an official declaration from Major Nerazzini, carried to me personally by Count de la Penne and Count Manfredo Gravina, in which the Italian Consul-General, desirous of removing the impression created in my letter of yesterday's date—that his official position sheltered him and that he left to others the more arduous task of beard-ing the author in his den—directly takes upon himself and is willing to be held responsible as a private individual for his letter of the 4th June. By this language the Consular cloak is laid aside and the Italian Consul-General constitutes himself the sole principal. Much as I should like to exchange fire with him, the operation of the laws of extraterritoriality placing me under the harsh legal treatment which is meted out on a British subject who is so unfortunate as to cause the death or disablement of an adversary, makes such a course impossible. It is also to be noted that in my first letter I alluded to the ordinary revenge which one Anglo-Saxon takes on another when publicly accused of mendacity. I would prefer not to continue this discussion in public; as I have clearly shown the intention to insult the officer corps of the Italian navy or the Italian flag never existed.

I am, etc.,

June 8th. B. L. PUTNAM WEALE.

SHANGHAI CEMENT TILE WORKS.

The second ordinary general meeting of the A. Butler Cement Tile Works, Limited, was held at Shanghai on June 5th.

The Chairman, Mr. H. Mandl, said:—The profits we made in this second year of our existence come to over 10 per cent. of our capital; we have no bad debts to provide for; and we have no liabilities whatever; and therefore, I think, we are entitled to claim that we stand on a safe and sound basis. There is nothing in the accounts that calls for any special comment. After the necessary provision for depreciation on plant, machinery, and buildings, your Directors recommend you to deal with the remaining balance of S. Tls. 4,545.53 as follows:

To pay a dividend of Tls. 3.00 p. share, i.e., 6 per cent. p.a. Tls. 3,600.00

To pay a bonus to the Agent and Superintendent as stipulated by agreement ... Tls. 515.00

and to carry forward to new Profit and Loss Account... Tls. 430.53

S. Tls. 4,545.53

During the course of the year we have moved into our own new premises at the stipulated time, and have increased our plant as we proposed to do. In consequence we were able to lay in a stock of tiles, sufficient to meet immediate demands. Business in our line does not come regularly, but rather in leaps and bounds, and to meet all eventualities, the manager considers a still larger increase in certain directions necessary and is steadily striving to obtain it by degrees rather than to put a lot of money away in stock all at once. As to our property, and the buildings we have put on it, some of you followed our invitation to the opening inspection some time ago, and I think we, as the owners, and our agent and superintendent, who together with the architects, Messrs. Davies and Thomas, drew up the plans and built the place, may be rightly proud of what has been achieved with the money spent; because, not only is the land worth to-day about double what we paid for it, but I am also assured on good authority that our factory is apparently arranged thoroughly well for the purpose, is built well and what concerns us most, at a price which gives us fullest value for our money. The year's deliveries were more or less of the standard of last year, in some lines larger, in some smaller, and on the whole, though the December riots seem to have made many an intending buyer change his mind, showed a

tendency towards increase. Especially our roofing and stable flooring materials find more and more appreciation, and the orders already delivered or still awaiting delivery since the 1st of April open a good business outlook for the present year.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Gilbert Davies, and carried, that the report and accounts be passed, and that a dividend of six per cent. for the year, equal to Tls. 3 per share, be paid.

THE AMERICAN DISTRICT COURT FOR CHINA.

59TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

24th March, 1906.

Mr. Denby introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed:

A Bill Creating a United States District Court for China and Prescribing the Jurisdiction thereof.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that a Court is hereby established, to be called the United States District Court for China, which shall have original jurisdiction in all cases and judicial proceedings whereof jurisdiction may now be exercised by United States Consuls and Ministers by virtue of treaties between the United States and China, except in so far as the said original jurisdiction is qualified by section 2 of this Act. The said Court shall hold sessions at Shanghai, China, and shall also hold sessions at the cities of Canton and Tientsin at stated periods, the dates of such sessions at each city to be announced not less than three months in advance through the columns of the newspapers printed in English and of general circulation in China, and a sitting of the Court shall be held in each of these cities at least once annually. It shall be within the power of the judge, upon due notice to the parties in litigation, to open and hold Court for the hearing of a special cause at any place permitted by the treaties, and where there is a United States Consulate, when, in his judgment, it shall be required by the convenience of a large number of witnesses, or by some other important public interest. The place of the sitting of the Court shall be in the United States Consulate at each of the cities, respectively.

Sect. II.—That the original jurisdiction of said Court shall extend to all cases, civil, criminal, and probate, except that the Consuls shall have exclusive original jurisdiction to try and determine civil cases where the sum or value of the property involved in the controversy does not exceed \$500 United States money, and in criminal cases where the punishment for the offence charged cannot exceed by fine \$100 and sixty days' imprisonment, or both, and power to arrest, examine, and discharge accused persons or commit them to the said Court. From all final judgments of the Consular Court either party shall have the right of appeal to the United States District Court for China.

Sect. III.—That appeals shall lie from all judgments or decrees of said District Court to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals of Ninth Judicial Circuit, and thence appeals and writs of error may be taken from the judgments or decrees of the said Circuit Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court of the United States in the same class of cases as those in which appeals and writs are permitted to judgments of said Court of Appeals in cases coming from District and Circuit Courts of the United States. Said appeals or writs of error shall be regulated by the procedure governing appeals within the United States from the District Courts to the Circuit Courts of Appeal, and from the Circuit Courts of Appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, respectively, so far as the same shall be applicable; and said Courts are hereby empowered to hear and determine appeals and writs of error so taken.

Sect. IV.—That jurisdiction and appeals in criminal, civil, and probate matters shall in all cases, both in the Consular Courts in China and in the said District Court, be exercised and

enforced in conformity with the laws of the United States and the laws of the District of Columbia not in conflict therewith, which are hereby extended over all citizens of the United States in China. But in all such cases, when laws are deficient in the provisions necessary to give jurisdiction or to furnish suitable remedies the Common Law and the Law of Equity and Admiralty shall be extended in like manner over citizens of the United States and others to the extent that the terms of the treaties, respectively, justify or require.

Sect. V.—That the procedure of the said District Court shall be in accordance, so far as practicable, with the existing procedure prescribed for Consular Courts in China in accordance with sect. 486 of the Revised Statutes of the United States: Provided, however, that the judges of the said District Court of the United States in China shall have authority from time to time to modify and supplement said rules of procedure.

Sect. VI.—That the judge of the said District Court of the United States in China, the district attorney, the marshal, and the clerk thereof shall be appointed by the President, and shall receive as salary, respectively, the sums of \$8,000 per annum, \$5,000 per annum, \$3,000 per annum, and \$3,000 per annum. The judge of the said Court and the district attorney shall, when the sessions of the Court are held at other cities than Shanghai, receive in addition to their salaries their necessary transportation expenses and ten dollars and five dollars per day, respectively, during their absence from Shanghai.

Sect. VII.—That the tenure of office of said judge of said Court shall be fifteen years, unless sooner removed by the President for cause; the tenure of office of the other officials of the Court shall be at the pleasure of the President.

Sect. VIII.—That the marshal and clerk of said Court shall be required to furnish bond for faithful performance of their duties, in sums and with sureties to be fixed and approved by the judge of the Court. They shall each nominate deputies at Canton and Tientsin, who shall also be required to furnish bonds to the approval of the judge, and whose appointments shall be made by him. Such deputies shall receive compensation at the rate of five dollars each day the sessions of the Court are held at their respective cities.

Sect. IX.—That the tariff of fees of said officers of the Court shall be the same as the tariff already fixed for the Consular Courts in China, subject to amendment from time to time on the recommendation of the judge, by order of the President, and all fees so taxed and received shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

Sect. X.—That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANCHURIA.

PLANS OF JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.

The Japanese State Council on May 23rd considered the question of the development of Manchuria. A Tokyo dispatch states that a scheme was elaborated by the Manchuria Committee before the departure of Marquis Saionji on his tour of inspection in Manchuria, and was laid before the Cabinet. Now that the Premier had returned with a personal knowledge of the situation in Manchuria, the scheme was submitted to the consideration of the Elder Statesmen, and it is stated was approved by the Council.

The substance of the scheme—as given in the Tokyo dispatch—is that a company should be formed by the Government and private capitalists jointly for working and developing the railways, mines and forests in Manchuria. The Government would contribute the railways, mines, and other property owned in Manchuria, as its share in the company, and the value of these properties, as they now stand, is estimated at about Y100,000,000. As a working fund is required, the total capital of the company cannot be less than Y100,000,000. In addition an enormous fund is required for the improvement of the railway system and the mines, and it is proposed to raise a loan of Y100,000,000 on the security of the company's property.

The State Council eventually approved the following policy—based on the result of the Premier's tour—for the guidance for the Japanese operations in Manchuria:

"That the sovereignty of China in Manchuria should be respected, giving equal opportunity to all the Powers, and joint enterprises of Japanese and Chinese should be encouraged for the development of Manchuria.

"That the principle of military supremacy should be avoided, so that the natives might be convinced of the sincerity of Japan's intentions towards China."

It is considered that the principle of military supremacy, if followed in Manchuria, will only arouse misgivings on the part of the Powers, which may adversely affect the diplomacy of the Empire. It is therefore thought advisable to avoid such a line of action in Manchuria, which would also offend the authorities of South China. As agitations are afoot in China for the recovery of autonomy and the boycott of American goods, Japan's pursuance of military supremacy in Manchuria would only result in benefiting a certain commercial country, and give an opportunity to two certain European Powers to cultivate better relations with China.

The State Council decided to withdraw the existing military administration offices in Manchuria as soon as practicable. The next question to be settled is the expenditure, which must be included in some way in the Budget.—*Japan Chronicle*.

NATIVE OPIUM.

If China is seriously desirous of restricting the consumption, says the British Government, the British and Indian Governments will cordially agree to any plan which may further it at all even at some sacrifice. All right thinking persons will endorse the sentiments here conveyed, but most of us out here will also endorse the "if," remarks the *Peking Times*. We have noted with great approval the efforts which the Viceroy has been making to check the consumption of opium among his officials, there being only one we believe among his staff who indulges in the vice and he is a hard case. We have also heard with pleasure of restrictions being drawn up with regard to opium dens in Peking. But we have not heard and we fear it is not possible to hear that China has placed any restriction on the cultivation of the poppy, nor that any diminution has taken place in the area under cultivation. On the contrary, we have the recent Customs reports which tell us that native opium is increasing, and we purposefully quote from Ichang where it is stated:

"Foreign Opium is practically unknown at Ichang. The Native Opium to be found in our tables is that which, whether produced in Yunnan, Kweichow, or Szechuan, is shipped at Chungking in chartered junks and transhipped here in steamers for distant markets.

The returns show a more than ten-fold increase in the native opium cultivation and it is the general opinion that opium-smoking in this district is still increasing. Chinese have remarked on the universal tolerance now accorded to the practice. The opium-smoker has no longer any reason to attempt to conceal his pleasant habit, or to retire for its satisfaction to the *kuan* or divan—now no longer patronised by the well-to-do. Every respectable house now has its *fumoir*, and is expected to take, as well as to offer, a few whiffs in the course of an ordinary visit. Opium-smoking among the Chinese has ceased to be generally regarded as a vice, and, like tea-drinking in England, definitely taken a place among the customs of the country."

At their sales rooms on the 11th June Messrs. Hughes and Hough offered for sale by public auction all those pieces or parcels of ground registered in the Land Office as the remaining portion of Section A of Inland Lot No. 505 and the remaining portion of Inland Lot No. 515, together with the messuages thereon known as Nos. 54 to 62, Stone Nullah Lane and Nos. 4 to 12 Wan Chai Road. The property has an area of 3,694 feet or thereabouts. Bidding started at \$10,000 and ran up to \$20,100, but as this was below the upset price, the property was bought in.

COMMERCIAL.

RESUME OF SILK SEASON 1905-1906.

The season under review has not been a profitable one to Native silkmen, and whilst losses have not been in the aggregate severe, it must be borne in mind that this is the third successive season of adverse trading. The available quantity of white silk for export has proved to be less than last year, the steady increases in Native consumption is a feature which must not be lost sight of. It is of course impossible to even approximately estimate what that consumption is, but it is a matter of common knowledge that silk is more extensively worn by the Chinese than ever, not only in the Treaty Ports but in the interior. Steam Filatures.—The average cost of production was very high and had not the demand for 6-11 been good right throughout the season the result would have been a much heavier loss to the filatures, the export to America being considerably less than in the preceding years. For 13-15 No. 1 Market Chops Taels 775 was paid in June improving Tls. 25 per picul in the following month, a similar improvement occurring again in August. Tls. 830 was paid early in September, but from that time on the demand for coarse sizes dragged, and the market closed with sellers at Tls. 760 although the stock on hand was very small. For good Market No. 1, 9-11 prices have varied as follows—Opening in June at Tls. 830, July Tls. 845, August Tls. 860, September Tls. 890 dropping back to Tls. 830, in January; prices improved in February and March to Tls. 860, and at the close there is practically no stock of fine sizes.

Raw Silks.—The export to Europe shows a falling off of nearly 25 per cent. as compared with 1904-1905, over 80 per cent. to India and Egypt; whilst to other places the export is about as last season. Taking Gold Kiling as the basis the fluctuations may be recorded thus—June Tls. 555, August Tls. 565, from the beginning of September down to the first week in December but very little business was recorded; prices then gave way and Tls. 512-513 was realized, January Tls. 525, February 535-530, March 540-550, April Tls. 555 dropping again to Tls. 525 in May. **New Crop.**—Reports from the white silk districts point to a larger crop than last year, and it is estimated that there will be 10,000 bales more available for export. Best Tsattees are not more plentiful than last year, the excess is said to be in the lower grades of Tsattees, in Hainan and Gooe Kiawhing. Estimates of the available quantity for export are more difficult to make than usual, because not only is Native consumption continually increasing, but also the stocks usually carried over in the country from season to season are this year non-existent. In favour of a larger export the conditions for good second crop are unusually favourable, the weather being good and there is an abundant supply of leaves.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 14th June, state that 20 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 84,885 tons of coal. Since May 31st, 15 steamers have arrived with a total of 55,023 tons of coal. The Report also states that the market generally remains quiet. Cardiff has been quite neglected. Cardiff.....\$15.00 ex-ship, nominal. Australian.....\$9.50 to \$10.25 ex-ship, steady. Yubari Lump.....\$12.00 nominal. Miiki Lump.....\$12.00 steady. Moji Lump.....\$9.00 to \$10.00 ex-ship, steady. Moji unscreened.....\$7.50 to \$9.00 ex-ship. Aitake Lump.....\$9.75 to \$10.00 steady. Bengal.....\$9.00 to \$10.00 nominal.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 15th June.—Small business only, market quiet. Stock about 800 bales. Bombay.....\$18.00 to \$20.00 per picul. Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.....19.00 to 23.00. Shanghai and Japanese.....26.00 to 27.00. Tungchow and Ningpo.....26.00 to 27.00. Reported sales, 100 bags.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong, 15th June, says:—The unexpected decline in exchange and low prices ruling induced one or two of our large sanguine dealers in re-enter the market, and having a wide selection to choose from a fair business has resulted. Values, how-

ever, show little or no change, and contrary to expectations the feeling amongst importers is not strong. Almost all counts have been dealt in, but best qualities of No. 10s and No. 20s have attracted by far the largest amount of attention, and form the bulk of the settlements. At the close the dealers have satisfied their requirements and are not buying, and we again close dull but steady. The offtake during the interval has overtaken receipts and our estimate of stocks shows a substantial decrease on last Mail. Bombay continues weak, but prices there are still \$3 to \$4 above placing cost.

The most noteworthy feature of the interval has been the reported collapse of a large native yarn and opium Hong with liabilities amounting to two lacs. This is the beginning of the end, as we hear that 2 or 3 more dealers are lingering between life and death, and will in all probability shortly follow suit.

Sales of the interval aggregate 7,123 bales, arrivals 9,775, unsold stock 78,000, and sold but uncleared yarn 60,000 bales.

Local Manufacture.—After some interval a small sale of 50 bales No. 10s at \$92 is reported.

Japanese Yarn.—Nothing doing.

Raw Cotton.—The market is almost lifeless and with the exception of a sale of 73 bales superfine Bengals at \$22 to \$23 no business is reported. In China kinds some 75 bales are reported to have changed hands at \$23. Unsold stock about 2,000 bales Indian, and 300 bales Chinese. Quotations are \$19 to \$23 Indian, and \$22 to \$25 China.

Exchange on India, after touching Rs. 150 for T/T and Rs. 16 for Post, closes weak to-day at Rs. 156 and Rs. 156 respectively. On Shanghai 72 and on Japan 102 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The undenoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 9th instant, viz:

Indian.—Market weak, sales amounting to 4,100 bales at easier rates, unsold stock 95,000 bales.

Japanese.—At a decline of half to one tael about 2,000 bales are reported sold, say, at Tls. 86 to 93 for No. 16s, and Tls. 98 to 102 for No. 20s.

Local.—No fresh business is reported, market closing weak.

PIECE GOODS.

Mosses, Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai 7th June, 1906, states:—There was a flutter of hopeful expectation yesterday when sterling exchange made a sudden and what looked like a determined downward movement, but, alas! it turned out to be one of its old time freaks, and barely lasted out the twenty-four hours. To-day there is a reaction and the trade is doomed to disappointment, for a substantial drop would undoubtedly have a very beneficial effect on business, while these sudden and violent fluctuations are a vexatious nuisance, and the bugbear of all engaged in the trade. On a recovery from a drop it is the native dealer's custom to ask for the equivalent of the subsequent advance, when offering for goods, quite overlooking the fact that the market had not advanced in consequence of the previous decline—and so the last state of the holder of the goods is worse than the first. The dealers in American goods are all anxiously waiting for the return of the mission to the north, no news of what they have been able to accomplish, if anything, having preceded them. They are due back here on the 9th inst. In the meantime an announcement was made that Loukden had been thrown open to International trade from the 1st instant, but it does not appear to be without restrictions, almost, if not quite, as irksome to Foreign commerce as they were before. The native dealers here do not appear to be favourably impressed so far, but are still hopeful of a happy termination to their present difficulties. We are told there is slightly more enquiry for the river and nearer markets, and that small quantities are being taken to meet the demand, but it amounts to a mere fraction of former years. The home markets keep very firm and prices are well maintained. Apparently, in consequence of the favorable reports of the growing crop, a very large acreage of which has been planted, quotations for American cotton are lower, the Liverpool spot price being 6.05d. for Middling, while the New York rate for October is 10.26 cents. The export of plain cottons from England last month was 34,000,000 yards to Hongkong and China, and 1,000 bales yarn to Shanghai alone. The market for imported yarns is showing a little more activity, while deliveries of local spinnings are falling off as usual, when the country people are busy with their agricultural pursuits. Cotton is slightly firmer. Again we have only the auction prices to give an inkling as to the market,

private business from first hands being absolutely at a standstill. The demand for Ningpo has assisted the auctions somewhat for cotton goods but woollens are very difficult to move at satisfactory prices. Grey Shirtings.—The 7-lbs. and common 8-lbs. went at steady to firm prices at the auctions, but the better qualities of the latter were inclined to hang fire somewhat. For the 10 and 12-lbs. and most of the heavier makes, prices were distinctly firmer. We have not heard of a single transaction from first hands, neither do we believe that one has taken place. Drills and Sheetings.—Second hand holders are meeting the demand and are apparently only too willing to make concessions in price in order to effect resales. They are even resorting to the hammer to some extent, but the small quantities sold make very little impression on the high stock on hand.

Fancy Goods.—The one redeeming feature of the week is the steady to firmer prices which were paid for Fast Black Cotton Italians at this morning's sale, showing a decidedly better enquiry for all but the very cheapest qualities. Turkey Reds were again easier. Egyptian cotton has advanced to 10.5d. Woollens.—Prices continue to be all in and out, so much so it is difficult to describe the market. It is certainly not strong by any means, the demand for the various fabrics being very fitful and irregular. Cotton Yarn.—

Indian.—The market is steadier and rather more buying has been indulged in both by the River and Tientsin dealers, prices being steadier at the close. The transactions amount to 2,810 bales in all.

MICELLANEOUS IMPORT!

HONGKONG, 15th June.—The prices ruling are as follows:

COTTON YARN.—Business has been done on a more extensive scale, but at lower rates than those of the last fortnight. Latterly owing to the continuance of demand rates have recovered their former position. Quotations are:—No. 10s at \$83 to \$107; No. 16s at \$110 to \$128 and No. 20s at \$114 to \$141. Arrivals 25,000 bales; shipments 13,000 bales; sales 10,000 bales; bargains 75,000 bales.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	140.00 to 160.00
22 to 24, ...	160.00 to 165.00
28 to 32, ...	167.50 to 175.00
38 to 42, ...	180.00 to 190.00

Reported sales 2,000 bales.

	per bale
COTTON PIECE GOODS—Small sales. Market quiet.	

Grey Shirtings—7lbs.	\$2.55 to
8.4 lbs.	3.35 to \$4.10
9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.30
White hirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.92 to 9.00
58 to 60 ..	2.92 to 9.00
64 to 66 ..	2.92 to 9.00
Fine	2.92 to 9.00
Book-folds	2.92 to 9.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	1.65 to 1.80
T-Cloths—8lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.25 to 2.90
7lbs. (32 in.),	2.25 to 2.90
6lbs. (32 in.), Mexs.	2.25 to 2.90
7lbs. (32 in.),	2.25 to 2.90
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.10 to 8.95

Drills, English—40 yds., 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14 lbs. } 4.50 to 5.50

	per piece
Turkey Red Shirtings—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 lbs. }	\$1.75 to \$4.50

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS

HONGKONG, 14th June, 1906.

Apricot	\$22 to \$25
Borax	\$19 " \$20
Cassia	\$13 " \$18
Cloves	\$18 " \$38
Camphor	\$135 "
Cow Bezoar	\$120 " \$140
Fennel Seed	\$7 " \$850
Galangal	\$ " "
Grapes	\$13 " \$14
Kinnis	\$14 " \$18
Glue	\$25 " \$50
Olibanum	\$4 " \$16
Oil Sandalwood	\$250 " \$375
" Rosa	\$52 " \$160
" Cassia	\$180 "
Raisins	\$9 " \$275
Senna Leaves	\$2 " \$550
Sandalwood	\$29 "
Saltpetre	\$10 " \$75

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Sithonia*, sailed on 8th June. For Aden:—750 bags sugar, 14 cases cassia. For Venice:—10 boxes essential oil. For Alexandria:—150 boxes cassia. For Fiume:—6 bales leaf tobacco. For Trieste:—316 packages tea. For Genoa:—917 slabs tin, 40 bales raw silk, 33 rolls matting, 17 cases blackwoodware, 3 cases bamboo-ware. For Antwerp or Hamburg:—85 cases bristles. For Antwerp or Bremen or Hamburg:—170 packages tea. For Amsterdam:—200 cases cassia. For Rotterdam:—200 bales bamboo scraps, 100 bales canes, 6 cases chinaware. For Breiden or Hamburg:—92 packages tea. For Bremen:—240 rolls matting, 213 packages tea, 50 boxes cassia, 50 bales cassia, 11 boxes rattanware, 7 boxes blackwoodware. For Hamburg:—535 packages tea, 450 boxes cassia, 300 bales cassia, 266 bales feathers, 58 bales canes, 47 rolls matting, 30 cases palm leaf fans, 11 cases feathers, 10 cases chinaware, 5 cases china paper, 4 bales split bamboo, 4 cases silk and curios, 3 cases rattanware. For Copenhagen:—6 bales feathers. For Koenigsberg:—16 packages tea. For Hamburg or London or New York or Boston:—486 slabs tin. For New York:—120 cases camphor, 20 cases essential oil. For Buenos Ayres:—175 packages tea. For Hamburg or London 54 packages tea.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th June, 1906.—The market has again reverted to marked inactivity, and the little improvement reported in our last has not been maintained; with very few exceptions rates have ruled weak and we have but little business to report. Exchange on London T/T. 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$, on Shanghai 72.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have improved their position both here and in London. Local business has been transacted at \$815 for cash, and the market closes steady with buyers at that rate. The latest quotation from London is £92. Nationals are neglected and without any business to report.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have ruled firmer and a small demand at \$810 has met with no response. Cantons continue quiet at \$360 with sellers and no sales. China Traders are still in demand at quotation, but there are so few shares to deal with, that the rate must be taken as a nominal one. In the Northern Insurances we have no local business to report, and Shanghai rates rule about the same as last week.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are still enquired for at \$305, but shares are not forthcoming, and the market closes with a small demand at that rate. Chinas have been placed at \$85, the market closing steady at that.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos have continued in demand, and business has been put through at \$25, and sales are reported at \$25 $\frac{1}{2}$. The market closes with buyers at \$25 $\frac{1}{2}$, and possibly at \$25 $\frac{1}{2}$. Indo-Chinas have changed hands, chiefly between this and Shanghai, at from \$75 to \$78, the market closing rather quiet at \$79 sellers. China Manilas were in some demand during the early part of the week, but we have heard of no sales and the market closes weaker with sellers at \$20 $\frac{1}{2}$. Donglases could be placed at quotation, but shares continue scarce and we have heard of no business. Shells and Star Ferries continue neglected.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue neglected and without business. Luzons have declined to \$20 without business.

MINING.—Raub's have been placed during the week at \$3, \$3 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$3 $\frac{1}{2}$ closing with buyers at \$3.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue out of favour and the rate has fallen to \$159 without sales. Shanghai Docks have ruled steady at 114 without any local business. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—With the exception of sales of Humphrey's at \$11 $\frac{1}{2}$, \$11, and later at \$11 $\frac{1}{2}$, we have nothing to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—Shanghai quotations come lower with Ewos at 70, Soey Chees at 310, and Lau Kung Mows at 72. Hongkong Cottons have also declined to \$14, with sellers.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have been placed at \$9, Green Islands at \$28 $\frac{1}{2}$, and A.S. Watsons at \$13 $\frac{1}{2}$, all closing with sellers

at those rates. Electrics have fallen to \$15, and China Lights to \$10 without business. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

Closing quotations are as follows:

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$815, buyers London, 292
National B. of China A. Shares	£5	\$38
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$74, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$64, buyers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$10
China Provident	\$10	\$0
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 70
Hongkong	\$10	314, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 65
Lau Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 72
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 310
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$16
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G	\$50	\$103, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$159, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	318, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng Co., Ltd	Tls. 10	Tls. 114
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 225
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$22, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	328 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	3175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	315
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	3235
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	3130, sellers
Hongkong Tea Co.	\$25	3240, buyers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	329, sellers
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	391
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	380, sellers
China Fire	\$20	385, sales & buy
China Traders	\$25	398, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	305, buyers
North China	£5	Tls. 85
Union	\$100	3810, buyers
Yangtsze	\$60	3175
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	3118, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	3114, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	330, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 116
West Point Building	\$50	353
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fr. 250	\$450, nominal
Raub's	18 10	33, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	35
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	3165, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	320, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	3201
Douglas Steamship	\$50	340, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	325 $\frac{1}{2}$, buyers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	378, buyers
Shell Transport Co	21	37/-
Star Ferry	\$10	330
Do. New	\$5	321
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	350
South China M. Post	\$25	320, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	36
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	332
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	310 $\frac{1}{2}$, sellers
Watkins	\$10	35, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	313 $\frac{1}{2}$, sales & sel.
United Asbestos	\$4	39
Do. Founders	\$10	3160

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending the 7th June, 1906, states:—Business again has been very confined, the only feature of interest being a sharp fall in Indos from Tls. 60 July to Tls. 50 July, with sellers at this rate. Banks.—A number of Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares changed hands at \$800 ex div. 71 $\frac{1}{2}$. The London quotation is 290. The T.T. rate is 2/11. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Hongkong reports Unions at \$800 sales. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. Shares remain steady. Business is reported at Tls. 115 cash, Tls. 116 July, Tls. 117 August, Tls. 118 September. A fair number of shares have been sold at Tls. 121 December. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. These are a little easier, business being quoted at Tls. 228 $\frac{1}{2}$ June and Tls. 235, 236, 235 September, and Tls. 228 July, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Shipping.—A further fall has to be recorded in Indos, and business has been reported at Tls. 56 and Tls. 53 July, the market closing with sellers at Tls. 56 July. Tugs are steady at quotations. Sugars.—Peral Sugars are still in demand and business is reported at Tls. 110 and 107 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 110 cash and 114 $\frac{1}{2}$ September. Mining.—A single operation is reported in Weihsien Golds at \$7 and a fair number of shares are offering at this rate. Lands.—A small lot of Shanghai Lands have changed hands at Tls. 116 $\frac{1}{2}$. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas Shares have been dealt in at Tls. 134. Cotton Mills. No operations are reported, but all the shares are steady at quotations. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat. The following business has been reported during the week:—Tls. 230 cash, Tls. 232 June, Tls. 237 $\frac{1}{2}$ and Tls. 235 July, and Tls. 240 September, closing with sellers at the latter quotation. Stores and Hotels.—Astor House Hotels have been dealt in at \$31 $\frac{1}{2}$. Centrals \$15 $\frac{1}{2}$. Hall and Holtz at \$22, Weeks & Co. at \$20. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been again dealt in at Tls. 64, and there are still sellers at this rate. Electrics have changed hands at \$25 ex div. Loans and Debentures.—A single operation is reported in Astor House Hotel Debentures at Tls. 105.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 15th June.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, on demand 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON LONDON.—

Bank Bills at 4 months' sight 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 2/1 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 263 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits 4 months' sight 267 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 50 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, 60 days' sight 51 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 156 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank, on demand 156 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 156 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank, on demand 156 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight 72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Private, 30 days' sight 72 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand

102 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON MANILA.—On demand

102 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON SINGAPORE.—On demand

124 p.c.p.m.

ON BATAVIA.—On demand

128 $\frac{1}{2}$

ON HAIPHONG.—On demand

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.c.p.m.

ON SAIGON.—On demand

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p.c.p.m.

ON BANGKOK.—On demand

60 $\frac{1}{2}$

SOVEREIGNS, Fawk's Buying Rate

\$9.50

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

\$50.00

BAR SILVER, per oz.....

29 $\frac{1}{2}$

FREIGHT

From Hankow per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) Tls. 33/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland) Tea G. \$14 cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai: Tea and General Cargo, Tls. 1.60 to 1.80 per ton, weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June— ARRIVALS.

10, Keemun, British str., from Tacoma.
 10, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 10, Sparach, German str., from Hoihow.
 11, Clio, British sloop, from Tinghai.
 11, Gironde, French str., from Haiphong.
 11, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
 11, Kwangtse, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 11, Kongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 11, Mercedes, British str., from Tinghai.
 11, S. Rickmers, British str., from N'chwang.
 11, Salazie, French str., from Yokohama.
 11, Taishan, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 11, Tourane, French str., from Marseilles.
 11, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
 11, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 11, Zaida, British str., from Straits.
 12, Appalachee, British str., from Canton.
 12, Binh-Thuan, French str., from Saigon.
 12, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 12, Emps. of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 12, Gaekwar, British str., from Kobe.
 12, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 12, Joshi Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 12, Linan, British str., from Canton.
 12, Lombard, British str., from Moji.
 12, Lothian, British str., from New York.
 12, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
 12, Manila, British str., from Bangkok.
 12, Nicomedia, German str., from Portland.
 12, Onsung, British str., from Calcutta.
 12, Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.
 13, Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.
 13, Bombay Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 13, Delta, British str., from Bombay.
 13, Holstein, German str., from Haiphong.
 13, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 13, Macduff, British str., from Liverpool.
 13, Marwari, British str., from London.
 13, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 13, Sikh, British str., from Shanghai.
 13, Skuld, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 13, Talena, British str., from Pulo Baban.
 13, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Macassar.
 14, Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.
 14, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 14, Dongola, British str., from Yokohama.
 14, Haimun, British str., from Amoy.
 14, Indraui, British str., from New York.
 14, Loyal, German str., from Bangkok.
 14, Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.
 14, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 14, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Canton.
 14, Sumatra, German str., from Herbertshohe.
 14, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.

June— DEPARTURES.

11, Brand, Norwegian str., for Sourabaya.
 11, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
 11, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 11, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 11, Kwangtse, Chinese str., for Canton.
 11, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
 11, Yiksang, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Apeurade, German str., for Heibow.
 12, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 12, China, American str., for San Francisco.
 12, Choisang, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Earl of Garrick, Brit. str., for Newcastle.
 12, Huichow, British str., for Tientsin.
 12, Kiukiang, British str., for Canton.
 12, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 12, Kwongtang, British str., for Canton.
 12, Minnesota, Amer. str., for Seattle.
 12, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Salazie, French str., for Europe.
 12, Taming, British str., for Manila.
 12, Tourane, French str., for Shanghai.
 12, Wosang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
 13, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 13, Taishan, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Tamba Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 14, Aeol, British str., for Sydney.
 14, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 14, Delta, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Gaekwar, British str., for Calcutta.
 14, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 14, Liangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Macduff, British str., for Shanghai.
 14, Mackew, German str., for Bangkok.
 14, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Anping.
 14, Marwari, British str., for Yokohama.
 14, Pratt, German str., for Bangkok.

- 14, Pronto, Norw. str., for Canton.
 14, Skuld, Norw. str., for Canton.
 14, Zaida, British str., for Rangoon.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Salazie, for Hongkong from Yokohama, Messrs. A. Ropp and G. David; from Shanghai, Messrs. Luir, Ruegg, Silca, Lucien, Goldenberg, Spitterdia, and Dr. Hermann; for Saigon from Shanghai, Messrs. Yrer de la Brucholler, Gutampos, Funel, Shernberg, Luzzeha, Poirier and Guyomarch; for Singapore from Yokohama, Dr. Dakuno, Messrs. Kudatam and Leedbiank; from Shanghai, Mr. Andreassen, Mrs. Van Renede, Messrs. Joel Niyor, Mery, Marygret, Pinbery and Girek Kowichy; for Colombo from Yokohama, Messrs. Noumorand and Smith; for Port Said from Yokohama, Messrs. Fomine and Medchevsky; from Shanghai, Col. Cossavusky; for Marseilles from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Chevalier Lavasere, Messrs. H. Root, Solomskoff, Rev. Roussel, Miss Lamargarth; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Liblain, Messrs. E. Watson, Feurch, Baker, Voss and Charlou; from Shanghai, Messrs. Carlos Nunes, Birtenhsky, Mrs. Franck and 2 children, Miss Pery, Mr. Boudet, Mrs. Karch, Mr. Sherven, Mrs. Menal and 3 children, Messrs. Perrin and Bonilluer, Rev. Arond, Mrs. Gliserman and infant, Messrs. Gnerderson, O'Berkdar, Roussel and Du Tilles.

Per Kumano Maru, from Australia for Hongkong, Dr. R. C. Hall Forster, Mrs. Forster, Messrs. F. W. Belt, A. Determann, G. M. Lack, Dunber and A. Wingarten; for Kobe, Mr. J. G. Laing; for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. W. Baumaun, Mr. and Mrs. C. Elgar, Miss Fynes Clinton, Messrs. W. R. Furlong, W. Fred Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund James, Messrs. E. T. Sichlau, John C. Keep and E. J. Ward.

Per Athenian, from Vancouver, Dr. W. B. Foy; from Yokohama, Mr. W. Greig, Col. Darling, Mr. S. Ussher, from Kobe, Lieut. Dymock and Rev. J. H. France.

Per Tourane, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. R. G. Siap, Mr., Mrs. and Miss J. Chuidian and 2 children, Mr. Cuyuquan; from Colombo, Mr. T. C. Hales; from Singapore, Mr. W. Moens, Dr. Adolf Schmidt, Mrs. Haraguchi and Mrs. Matauda; from Saigon, Messrs. Menascha, A. McClean, J. E. McHugh, Alphonse Joubert, K. Hassaram, Miss Okita, Mr. Le Coat; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Ebray, Decoris, Mizrahi, Moise Nahoum, H. Web, Prario and Mosca; from Colomby, Messrs. Spiro and A. Cohen, Mrs. Eugenie Germann, Mrs. Henriette Berteux; from Singapore, Mr. E. E. Marples, Mrs. Gorlovesky, Mr. Lesima-hon; from Saigon, Messrs. Cosmao Dumanoir, Laurant, de Lamotte Dreusy, Walser, Coiji Tajola and G. Castellini; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. Amedeo Palmera; from Singanore, Mr. Seto; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Mr. Fanvean; from Colombo, Mr. Donaldson Rose.

Per Nikko Maru, from Nagasaki for Hongkong, Capt. J. Boardman, Messrs. L. Bonest, Kore Johnnesson, Y. Kikuchi, T. Furukawa, Mrs. S. Nakaoka, Mrs. T. Arashi; for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Painter and child, Messrs. F. T. Foxwell, J. E. McDonald, E. H. Van Patten, E. D. Stanley, Dr. K. Ohno, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hayashi; for Sydney, Hon. J. Sternberg, Miss A. Sternberg, Mrs. F. Bacon, Mrs. C. Pery, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. H. Baird, Mrs. H. F. Elwyn, Messrs. D. P. Turner, H. G. C. Mills and Ernest Whitty; for Melbourne, Mrs. J. Sternberg, Lieut. A. Sternberg, Mr. and Mrs. R. Singleton, Master F. Singleton, Miss E. Davis.

Per Delta, from London, &c., Messrs. E. W. Dawson, E. Narukawa, J. W. Ward, H. L. Dimmock, Forbes, Drummond, D. J. Lloyd, D. Keith, E. B. Broadrick, E. J. Chatburn, Col. G. de Mello, Messrs. F. F. G. Gariacho, H. H. Gompertz, Vice-Consul Kitzen, Messrs. John Brown, T. Clark, J. Hyde, Col.; Mrs. and Miss Gonsalves, Mr. S. C. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. Byron, R. N., Messrs. J. W. Taylor, Justice Berrington, W. E. Roberts, E. Abdool Hossein, C. L. Hunter, Capt. and Mrs. Prynne, Mr. and Mrs. B. Harding, Messrs. A. C. Loft, Khan and Castilho.

Per Dongola, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Mrs. T. D. Bough and Mr. H. S. Jenell; for Bombay, Capt. G. F. Bayley; for London via Brindisi, Mr. B. Runge; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Pettican, Mr. A. Moss and Mrs. Moss; from Kobe for Colombo, Mr. G. Greenwood and Lady R. Greenwood; for London, Capt. James; from Shanghai for

Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin and 2 children, Messrs. H. Lapsley, E. Kaddon, H. Ehmer, Mr. and Mrs. Brush, Messrs. A. M. de Silva, A. McEwen, J. Matheson, Behrendt and A. C. Smith; for Singapore, Mr. Bandmann and 2 ladies; for Bombay, Capt. Hutchison; for Wellington via Colombo, Mr. A. Cumine; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Adam and child, Miss R. Hattven, Mr. J. A. Fitch, Rev. and Mrs. T. Biggin, Messrs. T. R. Paiton and C. Saunders.

DEPARTED.

Per Minnesota, for Seattle, &c., Mr. Wm. Danby, Mrs. H. Beaumont, Mr. and Mrs. F. Leventhal, Mr. C. B. Kierniff, Mrs. and Miss Gilman, Mrs. Gordon, Miss Norton, Mr. J. B. Woodruff, Mrs. S. E. Abt, Mrs. J. Harbaugh, Miss Harbaugh, Mr. and Mrs. C. Murray Bain, Mrs. Laura S. Knight, Miss Caroline S. Ober, Mr. G. Weber, Miss E. C. Culter, Messrs. H. Sutherland, E. C. Hazlett, S. MacClintock, Capt. and Mrs. Wolfe, Miss Anna V. Johnson, Messrs. K. Oldorp, P. G. McFadden, H. T. Dumbell, G. A. Thompson, A. Determann, Mrs. D. C. Worcester and 2 children, Mrs. W. F. Pack, Friar B. Fernando, Friar H. Martinez, Friar Pedro Pelad, Dr. W. W. Van Vahm, Mrs. J. Livingston Taylor, Miss Ida R. Luther, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Fisher, Messrs. H. Moore, Torasawa, U. Morinaga, E. Nilsson, P. Larsen, Drakeford, L. Hackmeir, Alex. Gischner, Y. Zeitlich, A. Wastag, G. Schnapp, L. Hering, Mrs. B. Hackmeir, Miss J. Hackmeir, Miss S. Schnapp, Miss D. Schnapp, Miss R. Frenkel, Miss R. Weisenfreind, Miss R. Dorfmann, Miss L. Dorfmann and Miss E. Wolf.

Per China, for San Francisco, &c., Miss Z. Robinson, Mrs. Tenney, Mrs. L. Hinchman, Mr. H. Dunbar, Dr. Philippe, Capt. Le Camus, Mr. L. Murphy, Dr. H. Schutze, Miss E. Gaves, Mrs. Dunphy, Mr. Geo. Lack, Lieut. Lachevre, Lieut.-Comdr. Kenneth McAlpine, Mr. C. E. Carpenter, Mrs. R. Lamquet, Messrs. C. O. Gilfillan, H. Kopes, C. W. Posnett and Dr. Rouffindis.

Per Tourane, for Shanghai, Messrs. Monget, E. Pasquet, L. d. Bernardy, Greilammer, O. Gunderson, A. Weingarten, Picca Simon, E. Contellac and Romano Franco, Miss Annie Brown, Sisters Dubois and D'Argonze; for Yokohama, Mr. Buan.

Per Nalazie, for Saigon, Messrs. Y. Tryuen, K. Hassaram, Mrs. O. Rateau; for Singapore, Messrs. Arm C. Waern, Gillespie and Evans; for Marseilles, Messrs. Cesar Augusto da Rocha Abreu, Menoth Garibaldi, Sebastian Rouve, Vivarelli, Eugene Corbeau, Mrs. Soeurs Clementine Oliviere, Mrs. Ginditta Spella.

Per Tumba Maru, for London, Messrs. F. O. Seaton and J. H. Tudsbury, Lieut. and Mrs. Messenger, Master Messenger, Messrs. W. G. Derriman, A. Scott, W. H. Weatherholt, James Buttress, A. Maier, D. Tomiki, Mrs. K. Mateua, Mrs. S. Nakaoka, Lieut.-Col. S. Inagaki, Mr. Y. N. Fairhurst, Prof. Dr. Namha, Mr. R. Kafuku, Lieut.-Col. M. Kaus, Prof. S. Uenige, Major M. Hamamoto, Major Y. Yokoyanagi, Mr. and Mrs. Jules, Mr. J. T. Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lebis and infant, Messrs. P. Miols, E. H. Macpherson, G. C. Buy, S. Takebara, S. M. Idid, M. Fukin, Y. Sano, M. Maida, H. Plashman and C. Chambers.

Per Kumano Maru, for Japan, Miss Frances Holmes, Mr. F. W. Balt, Mrs. G. Yeguchi, Dr. Y. Okabe, Messrs. Y. Hasegawa, N. M. Phot, Frances Rosado, A. R. Olivar, J. Jalandoni, M. Fukuchi, Miss Khoonchai, Mrs. A. Matsumoto, Mrs. T. Seiki, Mr. and Mrs. Kawaguchi and child, Mrs. T. Inouye, Messrs. J. Hayashi, B. Nagano, Mrs. H. Ozuru, Messrs. N. Honda, S. H. Matsumoto, Y. Saito, J. T. Laing, Mr. and Mrs. W. Baumann, Mr. and Mrs. C. Elgar, Miss Fynes Clinton, Messrs. W. R. Furlong, W. Fred Holmes, E. J. Ward, John C. Keep, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund James, Mr. E. T. Sichlau.

Per Dongola, from Hongkong for Singapore, Mr. W. Moena, Lieut. Yates, R. E. Messrs. H. L. Tann, Justice Berrington, Mrs. Baggridge and infant, Mr. H. L. Fletcher; for Colombo, Capt. F. I. Bennett, Major L. H. Carleton; for Bombay, Mr. A. Mair; for Marseilles, Mr. G. Saul, Mrs. M. C. Brooks, Mr. J. A. Walker; for London, Messrs. J. M. Piper and J. L. Hu hea.

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